



For more than an hour yesterday police tried to persuade an unidentified man, left, not to jump from the roof of a four-storey building in Jaffa Road opposite Jerusalem's central post office. They eventually managed to haul him to safety, right. (Tikiner, Media)

Gorbachev mystery deepens

By Jerusalem Post Staff and Agencies

The mystery surrounding the apparent disappearance of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev deepened last night with two people reportedly being executed for trying to poison him.

But in Moscow yesterday official sources dispelled fears that the Soviet leader was seriously ill by saying that he is due to meet a French delegation in the Soviet capital today. If the announcement is correct it will end a 53-day absence by the general secretary which fuelled a wealth of speculation in the West. Gorbachev is officially still on holiday in the south of the country and is said to be in "excellent health."

However, Gorbachev's departure on holiday was not officially announced here. The West German daily newspaper *Bild* said he was suffering from a bad case of food poisoning, while the Swedish newspaper *Expressen* put his absence down to the fact that his wife Raisa had undergone an appendectomy, and developed complications. Gorbachev's last public appearance was on August 7, when he met a group of U.S. professors of Russian at the Kremlin.

Since then the only sign of life has been his signature on an article in the official newspaper *Pravda* and on several messages.

Last night NBC quoted U.S. intelligence sources as saying that two people, both members of a Lithuanian nationalist movement, had been executed for attempting to poison Gorbachev two months ago during the Soviet leader's visit to Latvia. He has fully recovered from the effects of the poison, said NBC.

The Soviet capital was yesterday puzzling over Gorbachev's seven-week absence. The energetic, 56-year-old leader has constantly been in the public eye since he took charge of the Kremlin in March 1985.

Leumi to up interest rates

PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

Bank Leumi yesterday announced its intention to raise the cost of overdrafts and loans with effect from early next week.

The bank is pushing up its prime rate, the rate on which most borrowing rates are based, by 1.5 per cent per annum, from 15 to 16.5 per cent. In monthly terms, the rise is from 1.25 to 1.4 per cent.

As of last night, no other banks had followed Leumi's lead. This is the first rise in interest rates since February of this year, and follows a series of reductions from a peak of 31 per cent to the current 15 per cent. The other banks are thought unlikely to hurry in their reactions, but if the situation in the money markets shows no sign of changing by the end of the week it is probable that all the commercial banks will raise their rates, although not necessarily by the same amount.

Leumi spokesman Gideon Sneskind noted that the bank had to adjust the cost of credit to its customers since the interest rates on bank deposits had remained high for the last month. "Bank Leumi led the fall in interest rates when the cost of funds allowed it, and now there is no choice but to raise borrowing rates," he said.

Deposit interest rates, especially on very large sums known as "jumbo" deposits, have risen by as much as 10 per cent.

More fallout over Sharon-Weizman row

By MENACHEM SHALEV and ASHER WALLFISH
Jerusalem Post Reporters

The burst of fury between Ezer Weizman and Ariel Sharon at Sunday's cabinet meeting provoked a torrent of political reactions yesterday as both camps pounced on their adversaries' most controversial ministers.

Politicians on the right called for Weizman's dismissal from the cabinet. After accusing Sharon of incitement on Sunday, Weizman had said: "Shut your mouth, in a moment I will throw you out of the cabinet."

"covering up the murder" last Thursday of army reservist Alexander Arad, and then promised that the Labour Party would be called to account for having labelled him a "murderer" after the Lebanon war. Prime Minister Shamir dissociated himself from the style of both ministers.

Following a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee yesterday, Shamir said that he "takes a serious view" of the ministers' conduct. "We do not need exchanges of this sort," Shamir said, noting that such conduct stems from the absence of a

"culture of debate" in Israel. Responding to a query by *The Jerusalem Post*, Shamir said that "one may differ with Arad's opinions but there was no justification for the way he was treated. The differences could have been voiced in a quiet and cultivated manner."

But Shamir also criticized the media's portrayal of the cabinet incident which, he said, lasted "only two and a half minutes out of a four-hour cabinet debate." Shamir added that the media coverage created the wrong impression, "as if Israel were living in anarchy, and that is not so."

MK Uzi Landau (Likud) called on (Continued on Page 9)

Shamir stoutly defends General Security Service

By ASHER WALLFISH
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Shamir yesterday strongly denied that the General Security Service is slipping. Nor is it true, he told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, that the public feels "weak and insecure" in the wake of recent terrorist attacks.

Shamir said that while it was true

that some things had gone wrong in the GSS during the past year, the organization had remarkable achievements to its credit in foiling terrorist plots, preventing attacks from being carried out and solving sabotage cases.

"The citizens of this country can remain confident that they possess a fine domestic security service," Shamir declared.

He said that even if Israel were to sign peace treaties with all its Arab neighbours, the blight of terror would not vanish completely for many years.

As for now, Shamir said, the situation has not deteriorated, and Israel is still one of the safest countries in the world.

Lewinsky: Diaspora Jews may withhold cash

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Jewish Agency Treasurer Akiva Lewinsky said yesterday that Zionist politicians will have to make way for new types of Israeli representatives on the governing bodies of the agency, or else the Diaspora fund-raisers will take their money elsewhere.

Lewinsky, who is Labour's candidate for the post of chairman of the agency and World Zionist Organization, sounded this warning at a meeting of the Zionist Council of Israel.

Speaking in the meeting room of the agency executive, and flanked by pictures of Herzl and Weizmann, Lewinsky said that the Zionist movement had no choice but to adjust to the organizational and financial practices demanded by American Jewry. The agency is jointly controlled by the WZO and the leading Diaspora fund-raising bodies.

Opposition to Lewinsky's candidacy has been growing lately among the American fund-raisers, however. This week a delegation of fund-raising leaders plans to meet with Labour Party leader Shimon Peres in the U.S. to press him to find another candidate.

"The time is past when Jews abroad gave money to Israel out of guilt," Lewinsky stressed. "They should only have such problems. Now you can't even talk to them about living in *galut* (exile). They don't even know what this means."

Lewinsky expressed concern that if the Jewish Agency and WZO failed to change with the times, this would encourage the American Jewish fund-raisers "to vote with their feet." He said that the fund-raisers would then set up an American-controlled body to dispense the funds raised for Israel, "and the Zionists will line up for handouts just like everyone else."

He warned that if this happened, the WZO, which is indirectly funded through the Jewish Agency, would shrink to a small and insignificant body.

To block such a development, Lewinsky said that many of the WZO politicians who now sit on the governing bodies of the agency would have to step aside for fresh faces from other sectors of Israeli life, such as agriculture, the universities, development towns, business and industry.

He stressed that this and other changes in the agency and WZO had to be made at the Zionist Congress in December. "If the parties at the congress think that the most important thing for them is to go home with a bigger piece of the pie, then there won't be any more Zionist movement."

Lewinsky recently sent a letter outlining his proposals for change in the agency and WZO to the 400 members of the agency assembly, its supreme governing body.

Beirut group threatens Tunisian reprisals

BEIRUT (Reuters).—A pro-Iranian Lebanese group holding Western hostages said yesterday it will start killing Tunisian government officials if Tunisia carries out death sentences on seven Moslem fundamentalists.

The warning was issued by the Islamic Jihad (Holy War) group in a statement accompanied by a photograph of American journalist Terry Anderson, held hostage since 1985 along with another American and three Frenchmen.

"The price for the execution of our struggling brothers will be the heads of big officials in the oppressive Tunisian regime," said a type-written statement signed by the group and delivered to an international news agency in Beirut.

Tunisia's state security court on Sunday passed death sentences on seven Moslem fundamentalists accused of trying to overthrow the Tunisian government with Iranian help.

Security was stepped up in Tunisia after the Shi'ite group issued its threat of reprisals. Police helicopters hovered over the capital and police reinforcements were stationed in dark blue vans at key positions throughout the city.

Government officials described threats of vengeance made in Beirut as proof of links between terrorist groups abroad and the defendants in a mass trial which ended in Tunisia on Sunday.

"This shows that those who say that the MTI (Islamic Tendency Movement) is a political organization and not linked to terrorism are wrong. This demonstrates the illegal nature of the group," said one official who asked not to be named.

Other senior officials said the government would not be swayed by the threats to assassinate Tunisian leaders if the death sentences were carried out.

"It will not deter us from our course," said one.

Sunday's sentences followed a month-long trial of 90 fundamentalists, 53 of them in custody, charged with trying to overthrow the regime.

Death sentences were passed on two defendants in custody and five fugitives. The MTI's leader, Rachid Ghanouchi, was sentenced to hard labour for life.

Ghanouchi's sentence brought expressions of relief from opposition political groups which feared a backlash if he had been sentenced to death.

The Islamic Jihad, believed closely backed by Iran, did not make any threats against the American and French hostages it holds.

Three of those condemned to hang, including one of the prisoners, were accused of direct involvement in hotel bombings which wounded 12 British and Italian tourists last month.

Shultz coming to promote conference

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — As part of a stepped-up effort to convene an international peace conference on the Middle East, Secretary of State George Shultz will visit Israel, Egypt and Jordan on his way to the Soviet Union during the second half of October, U.S. officials said yesterday.

They said that the secretary has been encouraged by recent indications that the Soviet Union was no longer demanding a formal PLO presence at such a conference. Instead, Palestinians who are not formally associated with the PLO could participate in a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

In Jerusalem, both the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry welcomed news of the visit. (See report, page 2.)

Shultz and other senior administration officials have come in recent

weeks to support in effect the position of Foreign Minister Peres on an international parity. The secretary is expected to urge Prime Minister Shamir and his Likud supporters to accept the proposal for a restricted conference.

In recent weeks, administration spokesmen have maintained that the U.S. is actively working to see if an international conference can work. They have insisted that the conference lead quickly to direct negotiations and that no settlement be imposed by the overall conference.

As an example, they said, there would be separate negotiations involving Israel and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. The Palestinians involved in the negotiations could have the tacit support of the PLO, but would not be actual members of that organization.

The Americans are relatively optimistic that a decision by the Soviet Union to join the four other permanent members of the UN Security

Council at such a meeting could lead to Syria's involvement as well.

But despite the announcement of the Shultz visit to the region, the Americans yesterday cautioned that there was still no certainty that a meeting could in fact be convened, given the very strong opposition expressed in recent months by Shamir.

Shultz, they added, was hoping to determine whether there was any "give" in the Likud stance.

The secretary has agreed to receive honorary degrees from the Weizmann Institute and Tel Aviv University while in Israel on October 18. He is due in Moscow on October 22 — this indicates that visits to Amman and Cairo will follow his stay in Jerusalem. No exact schedule was released yesterday.

Details of the Middle East trip were discussed yesterday during a meeting at the State Department between Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs (Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

Man charged with J'lem bomb plot

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A West Bank Arab has been charged in the Nablus military court with planning to rig a massive car bomb to be set off by a woman suicide driver at the government complex in Jerusalem.

Suleiman Zahiri, 29, of the Nur es-Shams refugee camp near Nablus, was charged with training in Pakistan and acting on behalf of the Islamic Jihad wing of Fatah, with which he made contact in Jordan. According to the charge sheet, the car bomb was to have been packed with RPG and mortar shells and explosives collected by Fatah operatives from IDF training areas.

The charge sheet said that while Zahiri was in Jordan in August 1985, he offered to assist Islamic Jihad, and it was agreed that upon his return to the West Bank he would open an electrical goods store where bombs would be manufactured. The store was also to serve as a safe house for activists of the organiza-

tion and a storage depot for explosives.

Zahiri was sent to Pakistan to learn about the construction and operation of timing mechanisms and remote control bombs. In December 1985 he reported to his handlers that he was about to open the store, and he received 3,000 Jordanian dinars to cover his expenses.

Zahiri met with other Islamic Jihad members to plan the car bombing and was instructed to contact a woman named Dallal and offer her the job of carrying it out. The attack was to take place between March and July 1986.

Zahiri and Dallal bought a car and originally considered attacking the Tel Aviv central bus station or the soldiers' hitch-hiking station at Beit Lid. They finally decided to carry out the attack against the government buildings in Jerusalem. Zahiri was given an additional 400 Jordanian dinars to rent an apartment, where he was found in possession of two crates of explosives to be used to arm the car. Aside from shells, the crates contained detonators and bullets.

The charge sheet against Zahiri was submitted on Sunday and he was remanded in custody until the end of his trial.

Shortly after the stabbing police arrested three Arab residents of Beit Safafa.

The taxi driver, Shabtai Hagai of Jerusalem, was stabbed five times. He was wounded in the chest and the base of the neck and was being treated at Shaare Zedek Hospital last night.

Shortly after the stabbing police arrested three Arab residents of Beit Safafa.



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	29.9.87	MIN.	MAX.	
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BUDAPEST	11	13	16	Clear
CHICAGO	17	21	24	Clear
COPENHAGEN	11	13	16	Clear
FRANKFURT	9	11	14	Cloudy
GENEVA	11	13	16	Cloudy
HELSINKI	8	10	13	Cloudy
BONGORONG	24	27	31	Clear
JERUSALEM	4	9	11	Clear
LEIPZIG	18	21	24	Cloudy
LONDON	18	21	24	Cloudy
MADRID	13	15	18	Clear
MONTREAL	1	3	6	Clear
NEW YORK	13	15	18	Cloudy
OSLO	7	9	12	Cloudy
PARIS	9	11	14	Cloudy
RIO DE JANEIRO	18	21	24	Clear
SAO PAULO	13	15	18	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	13	15	18	Cloudy
TOKYO	18	21	24	Clear
TORONTO	13	15	18	Cloudy
VIENNA	18	21	24	Cloudy
ZURICH	9	11	14	Cloudy

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THE WEATHER

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Min-Max
Jerusalem	50	15-27	28
Colan	31	18-29	30
Nahariya	31	22-29	30
Safed	56	15-27	28
Haifa Port	66	22-27	29
Tiberias	56	21-33	34
Nazareth	62	18-28	29
Afula	53	19-30	31
Shomron	48	18-29	30
Tel Aviv	38	20-29	30
B-G Airport	59	18-28	29
Jericho	66	20-28	29
Gaza	66	20-28	29
Beer Sheva	38	17-31	32
Eilat	27	23-34	35

Birth

DOROT—to Dr. Naomi (nee Stockwell) and Gershon, a daughter, sister to Boaz, on 27th September 1987.

J'lem welcomes Victor Brailovsky

Victor Brailovsky, the long-time former refusenik who arrived in Israel last week, was welcomed to Jerusalem yesterday by Mayor Teddy Kollek and by a reception in his honour at the Hebrew University held by the Public Council for Soviet Jewry.

At the reception, he thanked Jews in Israel and all over the world who had worked for his release. He said that the struggle for Soviet Jews should be stepped up in advance of the forthcoming summit meeting, since "this time we have a chance for a real success."

For most of the day Brailovsky and his wife and daughter were the guests of the World Labour Zionist Movement. Just before he got his exit visa earlier this month, Brailovsky was designated as a Labour Zionist delegate to the Zionist Congress, to be held in December.

He and his family also visited the Western Wall and planted a tree in the JNF Peace Forest.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Behind Sharon-Weizman clash

Opening guns fired in 1988 vote campaign

The 1988 election campaign opened at Sunday's weekly cabinet session, as far as Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon and Minister without Portfolio Ezer Weizman were concerned. Sharon set off to battle under a banner of "fear," and Weizman under a banner of "peace."

Although Sharon's Likud bloc and Weizman's Alignment bloc have not yet defined their key information and propaganda themes, and the two men have not been anointed as the rival parties' propaganda princes in charge of campaign headquarters, both are keen to get the role.

COMMENT

By ASHER WALLFISH

With the banners they have chosen, Sharon and Weizman each hope to fire the imagination of the electorate so effectively, even at this early stage, that their parties will gladly put them in charge.

Sharon may not recall the popular election jingle peddled years ago in Britain by some Conservatives: *If you want a nigger neighbour - vote Labour*. But his message is much the same, and so is his purpose.

Sharon wants the Likud to warn the electorate very much that their physical security cannot be assured while Labour ministers Rabin and Bar-Lev run the army, the police and the Border Police.

But his message also says that while Prime Minister Shamir runs the Mossad overseas intelligence arm and the General Security Service here in Israel and the areas, the safety of the individual cannot be guaranteed.

Sharon wants the Mossad to hunt down Yasser Arafat and his lieutenants around the world, as Arab terrorist figures were hunted down after the 1972 Olympic Games massacre. His call for that operation to recommence is meant as a re-

proach to Shamir.

Weizman, as the Alignment super-dove, wants the party to make peace its main campaign theme. Weizman has avoided the procedural intricacies of the international conference proposal, which may have proven to be something of a snare for his party leader, Foreign Minister Peres.

Moreover, with his understanding of the simpler man, Weizman is sure that the electorate will buy the "peace" package faster than the "international conference" package which Shamir has been so busy denigrating.

Weizman is no less ambitious a politician than Sharon. Both wanted to head the Likud a decade ago, but there was not enough room for the two at the top.

Just as Sharon believes he can do Shamir's job better than Shamir, Weizman believes he can do Peres's job better than Peres. Whether there is any justification for the beliefs remains to be seen. But when Sharon waves a banner, Weizman feels he must wave a banner too.

When Mordechai Gur was still in the cabinet, he regularly jostled with Sharon, replaying the old rivalry which began at the battle of Midfa Pass in 1956. Gur is gone, so Weizman has taken his place. Gur, like the other two, saw himself as prime minister material.

Both Weizman and Sharon, however, are outsiders, yankels-come-lately who feel they have to talk more loudly to show how much they feel at home in their respective parties.

They also happen to be the two most vulgar ministers in this or indeed any other cabinet in this country's annals, and neither is ashamed of the fact.

The 1988 election campaign might have opened at this week's cabinet session anyway, even if Weizman and Sharon had been absent, but it would not have been such a crude launching.

80 drivers charged in 'road block jam'

TEL AVIV. — Soldiers at the Erez checkpoint separating the Gaza Strip from Israel proper yesterday fired at a car which had failed to stop, and the ensuing commotion led to a two-hour traffic jam affecting hundreds of motorists.

Eighty drivers who tried to bypass waiting cars, thereby creating the traffic jam, were charged with dangerous overtaking, an offence that enabled police to confiscate their licences immediately. However, the driver who started it all, a local resident driving a Peugeot 404, was freed because he had simply not heard the soldiers' order to stop at the roadblock.

'Stolen love letters appear in print'

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Jerusalem Post Reporter
Ruth Blau, whose marriage to deceased Neturei Karta leader Amram Blau created a storm in Israeli circles in the mid-1960s, has lodged a complaint with the Jerusalem police claiming that personal letters of hers which were published in *Ma'ariv* last week were actually stolen from her home.

The letters, published in *Ma'ariv's* New Year edition, contained personal and intimate exchanges between her and Amram Blau, written just prior to and after their marriage in 1966. Ruth Blau claims that when she was notified of the publication she discovered that her attic had been broken into. The only article missing, she told the police, was a bonded package of her letters, captioned "ani ledodi vedodi II."

Blau - who also played a major role in the early 1960s scandal of the kidnapping of Yossels Shuchmacher, an affair that was immortalized in the refrain "where is Yossels?" - was hesitant about calling on the "Zionist police" for assistance, but in the end relented in order to try and retrieve her letters, sources close to the family said last night. They also recounted that the policeman who first came to collect Blau's testimony was subjected to a lengthy discourse on the evils of Zionism, until he made clear to Blau that he was a Druse.

Blau has called on *Ma'ariv* not to publish any more letters and to return them to her forthwith. She has also lodged a complaint against the paper with the Press Council.

Although there was no official comment from *Ma'ariv* last night about the affair, it is understood that the paper has no intention of any further publication and that, in fact, the paper did not have access to the original letters which were supplied by an outside party. *Ma'ariv* has known of the letters for several months.

Volunteers sought for Civil Guard

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter
KFAR TAVOR. — Heads of settlements in the Wadi Ara region have called for volunteers to join the Civil Guard in the wake of the murder last Thursday of IDF reservist Alexander Arad. They nevertheless stress that they have absolute faith in the security forces and that there is no need for panic measures.

CORRECTION

A story in last Wednesday's *Jerusalem Post*, reporting that the Jerusalem District Labour Court had postponed the firing of a doctor by Hadassah Hospital, was incorrect. In fact the court ruled that the dismissal of Dr. Ahmed Tibi was in effect and would remain so unless the court should rule otherwise in future dealings with the case. The hearing followed an application by Dr. Tibi for an injunction to prevent his dismissal. The application was rejected by the court.



Abba Kovner lies in state at Beth Hatefutsoth in Tel Aviv yesterday, before burial at Kibbutz Ein Hahoresh. Thousands came to pay their last respects to the poet, who developed the concept of a museum to present the history and culture of Jews all over the world. Among the mourners were those who fought alongside him in the Vilna Ghetto, comrades in the IDF Givati Brigade, and members of Hashomer Hatzair. Kovner died at 69, after a prolonged battle with cancer.

(Hanoch Gutman)

2 Arabs say plainclothes policemen severely beat them after their arrest

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Police are investigating a complaint by two East Jerusalem Arabs who say they were severely beaten by plainclothes policemen last week. They were apprehended near the Old City's Damascus Gate after they had committed a traffic violation, a police spokesman confirmed yesterday.

A policeman involved in the incident accused the men of trying to assault him and steal his pistol. Police are also investigating these charges.

One of the East Jerusalem men, who refused to be identified, told *The Jerusalem Post* that he and his colleague were stopped late at night on September 23 after he had driven through a red light. He said a car bearing Israeli licence plates pulled up in front of his vehicle, and three plainclothesmen approached him and asked for his identity card. They

later began shouting and cursing, and pulled his colleague out of his car, he said.

When a security man arrived at the scene, one of the plainclothesmen, an Arab, said that one of the East Jerusalem men had tried to steal his pistol, and that the second had tried to assault him, the complainant said.

The men were taken to a police station at el-Azariyah, where they were severely beaten and kicked by four plainclothesmen and one uniformed policeman, all of whom were Jewish, according to the man. He said he was assaulted as he lay on the ground with his hands handcuffed behind his back. "They said nothing, and didn't even bother to ask why we had been brought in," he said. The man's left eye, which he said had been kicked, was swollen and red, and he said his vision was blurred.

The men were later transferred to

police headquarters at the Russian Compound and held until morning, when they were released after signing statements about the incident. The complainant said that throughout the night, police attempted to get him to admit to the accusations against him. When he was freed, he found his car in the Russian Compound parking lot with a ticket on its windshield, and it had been ransacked, he said.

The men, a bank employee and a hairdresser, insisted there was no provocation for the violence against them, and categorically denied the charges by the Arab policeman. They said they believed their assailants may have been detectives from the police drug squad, who suspected them of carrying contraband.

A police spokesman confirmed that the men had filed a complaint, but added that a file had also been opened against them for allegedly assaulting policemen.

But Betar boycott opposed

Stabbed newsman to hunt attacker in photos and film of soccer match

By BERNARD JOSEPHS
and JONATHAN KARP
Jerusalem Post Reporters

Photographs and film of the crowd at Saturday's Betar Jerusalem - Hapoel Kfar Sava soccer match are to be examined by the journalist who was stabbed after covering the game.

Zadok Yehzekeli, who reports for the afternoon newspaper *Yediot Aharanot*, believes he may be able to recognize his attacker, and detectives will present him with dozens of press pictures and reels of TV film taken during the contest at Bloomfield Stadium in Jaffa.

Meanwhile, Yehzekeli yesterday came out against the decision by the Journalists Association to ban coverage of Betar matches for the next month. The boycott was ordered on Sunday in response to the attack on

the sports reporter who was critical of the team last season.

Last night Yehzekeli said he thought the ban was "unfair." He continued: "If we want other people to be fair to us then we have to be fair to them."

"I am 99 per cent certain the person who attacked me was a Betar supporter. But I can't be 100 per cent sure. I think we have to wait for the police to decide who they believe did it, and we certainly shouldn't make any judgments before that. It is not right for Betar to be punished before something is proven against them."

Yehzekeli, who has been placed under 24-hour guard in hospital by a security firm paid for by his paper, said he expected to view film of the crowd today. "I think I'll be able to

spot the man if he is in the pictures," he said.

"He was in his thirties, dark skinned, with black hair and wearing a white shirt. He was about average height, slim and strong."

A number of Knesset members intend to begin talks within a few days with officials of the Israel Football Association, journalists association and police in an attempt to find a way to improve conditions for soccer reporters. Amnon Nadav, chairman of the journalists association, said last night. He would name the MKs, but he said that if that the steps were successful, the journalists would reconsider their boycott of Betar Jerusalem.

"The boycott was not designed as a punishment," Nadav explained. "The intention was to just to improve the present situation."

'Nobody paying attention' to doctors' sanctions

By JUDY SIEGEL

Post Science and Health Reporter
Doctors this week thought that by forcing two hospitals to work on a reduced Shabbat schedule they were employing a powerful weapon against Kupa Holim Clalit in their fight to win higher compensation for working second shifts. But so far, they say, they feel as if "nobody is listening."

There were only three emergency operations at Haifa's Carmel Hospital yesterday, and reduced services at the Beit Leivinson rehabilitation hospital in Ra'anana - the two Kupa Holim Clalit institutions chosen to go on reduced schedules. But despite the closing of outpatient clinics at Carmel and the drastic cut in surgical procedures on the second day of sanctions, there were no contacts between the management and the doctors' representatives. "They don't seem to be paying any attention to us," a doctors' spokesman said yesterday. The doctors noted that health fund chairman Prof. Haim Doron is abroad to sign an agreement to set up a children's hospital here, and is not due back for several days. They claim that the Hista-drut's health fund is actually saving money by cancelling most operations at its hospitals, as it does not have to finance hospitalization days for patients.

Sanctions will next be introduced at Soroka Hospital in Beersheva (a key institution serving a large geographical area) and Ha'emek Hospital in Afula. The doctors plan to meet on Thursday to decide what to do next week. Beit Leivinson, where little surgery is done, was less affected by the sanctions than other hospitals; also, its many paraprofessional staffers helped shoulder the burden.

Everybody wants to shake hand of Matzri

By JUDY SIEGEL

Post Science and Health Reporter
The biggest celebrity at the Jerusalem Hilton this week, whose hand everybody wants to shake, is a bespectacled 61-year-old Beersheva man with a toothy grin below a grey moustache. It is Ovadia Matzri, Israel's first successful heart transplant patient, who was given a week's stay by the hotel as a "re-birthday" gift.

Yesterday he and his wife Lea had little time to enjoy peace and quiet in their fancy 12th-floor room with a magnificent view of the capital. They were regularly disturbed by friends, and total strangers, calling to wish Ovadia well. The soft-spoken heart patient seemed to enjoy it, because he didn't ask reception not to transfer the calls to his room.

He spent an hour in the hotel's exercise room, working out on the exercise bicycle and a Nautilus machine and lifting some light barbells. A physical education instructor was at his disposal to tell him what he could and could not do, as per his doctor's instructions. He may not swim for the time being, as it is not good for the healing scar on his chest, where a month ago he received a new heart.

SHULTZ

(Continued from Page One)

Richard Murphy and Israeli Ambassador Moshe Arad.

In Jerusalem, the secretary is also expected to raise with Shamir and other officials an administration proposal to sell more sophisticated weapons, including 12 F-15 fighters, to Saudi Arabia.

The *Washington Post* reported that the administration was tentatively offering to withdraw 1,600 Maverick anti-tank missiles from the package in the hope of making the deal more palatable to critics in Congress and the American Jewish community.

But no final decisions have yet been made, well-informed sources said.

Dr. MAX WOLFF

Passed away suddenly in Germany.

The burial will take place on Wednesday, September 30 at 11:00 a.m. at the Herzliya Cemetery.

Daughter Nina and Family

With deep sorrow we announce the death of

BOB DAVIS

in England.

Sadly mourned by:
His daughter - Binl
His son-in-law - Steve
His grandchildren -

Yifat, Adi, Tamir and Rotem
and Beit Kibbutz Yitz'el

On the first anniversary of the death of our dear

ELDAD LAVI

there will be a graveside memorial service on Thursday, October 1, 1987 (8 Tishrei 5748) at 4 p.m., at the Givat Shaul cemetery, Jerusalem - new gate.

We shall meet at the entrance to this cemetery section.

Zvi, Nurit, Prina and Uri Lavi

This winter some of the needy elderly will be depending on you for a square meal.



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All funds are allocated in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

J.P. STONE

U.S. Navy busy sweeping:

New mines in Gulf

DUBAI. — New mines were reported in a busy Gulf tanker shipping lane yesterday as Iraqi jets bombed an Iranian tanker and Iranian artillery pounded the Iraqi port city of Basra.

Shipping sources said a tug reported spotting several mines about 20 miles off Dubai in a bottleneck which loaded, deep-draft tankers must use to leave the Gulf.

They said the U.S. Navy had fished three mines out of the sea and at least two more were in the water.

Lloyds' shipping intelligence issued a warning that mines had been sighted and the area should be considered mined.

Dubai port radio advised tankers of unconfirmed reports of floating objects. "We are warning all vessels to keep a sharp lookout and navigate with caution," it said. Iraqi jets attacked an Iranian tanker near Kharg Island in the northern Gulf, the shipping sources said.

The raid was the latest in an Iraqi air blitz in which four tankers were hit over the weekend and which Baghdad has vowed to continue.

Iran said it was bombarding industrial and military targets in eastern Iraq in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on Iranian economic facilities, but Baghdad said the shells were hitting residential areas.

"Dozens of hospitals, schools, kindergartens, mosques, churches and shops have been destroyed and hundreds of houses demolished," the governor of Basra told Reuters.

Anwar Said al-Hadithi said Iran had extended the bombardments to include 80 per cent of the residential areas of the city, Iraq's second biggest with a pre-war population of a million.

U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger was heading home yesterday after talks with Arab leaders, pledging Washington would press for a UN ban on arms sales to Iran.

"We want to get an arms embargo against Iran," Weinberger told reporters in Cairo after conferring

with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

He said members of the UN Security Council, which demanded a ceasefire between Iran and Iraq on July 20, should stay united to endorse such an arms ban.

"It is vital to try to maintain unity in the UN if we can... We should proceed together on the embargo resolution as soon as we can," he said.

He expects increased cooperation between Gulf states and western countries, which have sent about 80 naval vessels to protect ships in the Gulf area.

U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz is reported to have reached an understanding with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze that Iran be given more time to act on the question before sanctions are imposed.

In Bahrain yesterday, Gulf oil sources said Iran's determination to ship its oil out of the Gulf has not been affected by the punishing and almost daily Iraqi air strikes.

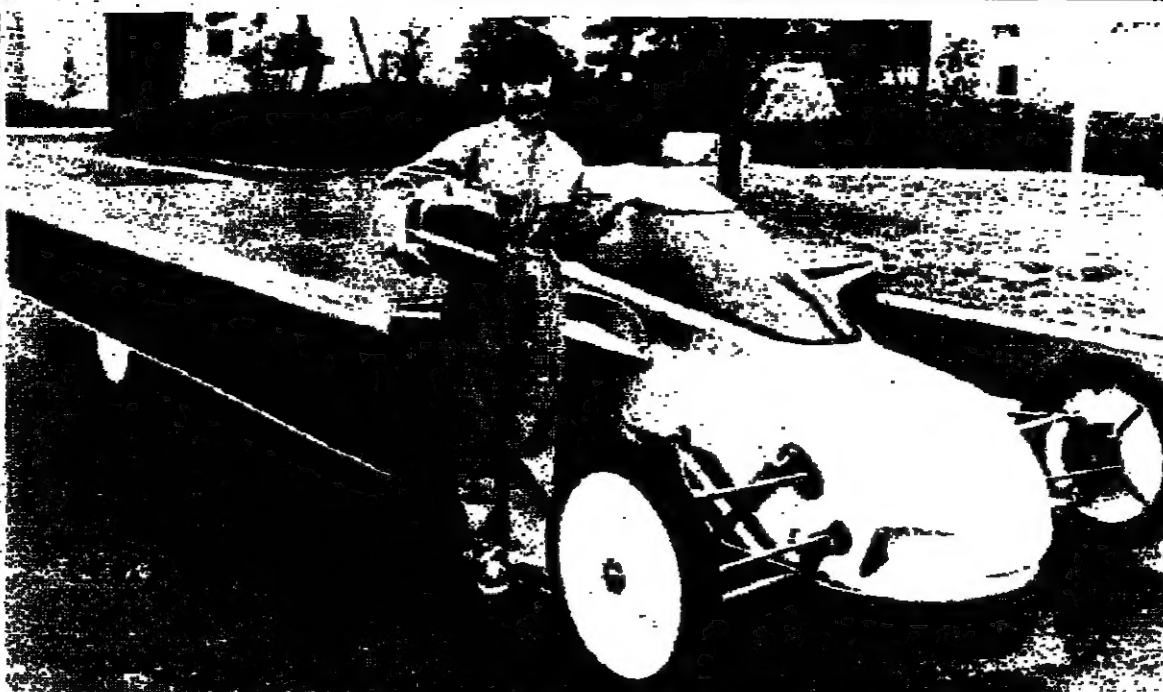
The sources reported that Iranian oil sales were down so far this month. But they said this had little to do with the bombing of vessels operating a shuttle between Iran's main Kharg oil terminal in the northern Gulf and safer export facilities further south.

Little is made public about the fate of tankers operating the Iranian shuttle run after they are hit by the Iraqis.

Iran rarely admits that any of them have been damaged and shipping sources refuse to give any information except to report the attacks, presumably because details might help Iraq to assess the damage and strike more accurately next time.

A fleet of 22 to 25 tankers shuttles oil to Iran's Larak Island in the Strait of Hormuz, southern gateway to the Gulf, where up to seven supertankers stand by out of normal range of Iraqi jets.

They receive the oil from the northern Gulf and discharge it later to other tankers to carry to export markets. (Reuters, AP)



The Japanese-made solar car "Phoebus", which will participate in the Darwin-Adelaide solar car race in November, is unveiled at a test-run in Tokyo yesterday. The car, weighing 250kg and 5.4m long, is equipped with 34 solar panels and can reach a speed of 80km per hour. (AFP)

Philippine army foils planned raid on capital

MANILA (AP). — Troops pursued Communist rebels in mountains north of Manila yesterday after clashes in which the state news agency claimed the military had foiled a planned raid on the capital.

Meanwhile, President Corason Aquino challenged claims by Vice President Salvador Laurel that the country's intelligence service had identified Communist sympathizers in her government.

Aquino, in a letter released by her press office, told Laurel that intelligence chief Rodolfo Canieso knew of no report identifying Communists or leftists in the government.

Laurel was to testify today to a congressional committee on his claims, which he said were based on a secret report updated by Canieso's National Intelligence and Coordinating Agency last week.

Military spokesman Col. Oscar Florendo said one soldier was killed and eight people, two of them civilians, were wounded in two separate clashes with New People's Army guerrillas on Sunday in Bulacan

Province, 60 km. north of Manila.

Florendo said troops scoured the rugged Sierra Madre mountains yesterday but failed to locate the rebel force. The government-run Philippine News Agency quoted military sources as saying the rebels planned "to stage a surprise attack in metropolitan Manila."

Philippines Constabulary sources in Bulacan said the fighting erupted when rebels ambushed troops early Sunday as the troops prepared to attack a suspected guerrilla camp.

The fighting was the latest in a series of clashes that have erupted in widely scattered areas of Luzon, the largest of the 7,200 Philippine islands, since last month's coup attempt.

Yesterday, the Manila Bulletin quoted a rebel leader as saying the guerrillas were establishing a "shadow government" on the Bataan peninsula to challenge the government for control of central Luzon, which includes the U.S. Navy station at Subic Bay and the U.S. Clark air base.

The newspaper quoted Javier Domingo, an official of the rebel National Democratic Front, as saying the "shadow government" would prepare for "massive attacks."

Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel Ramos placed the military on full alert in provinces around Manila. Ramos said recent rebel attacks in southeastern Luzon's Bicol region may be a diversion to draw troops away from the capital.

Elsewhere, the military's southern command said rebels killed nine anti-Communist vigilantes in a raid late Sunday on a village near San Vicente, 912 km. south of Manila on Mindanao Island. There was no word on rebel losses.

In north Cotabato Province, 960 km. south of Manila, officials said the leader of a militant farmers group, Custodio Nim, was hacked to death on Sunday by members of a right-wing religious cult, the Tadtads. The military uses the Tadtads to fight Communists and rebel sympathizers.

UK Labour shifts to right

BRIGHTON (AP). — Britain's opposition Labour Party, struggling to regroup after three successive defeats, yesterday voted overwhelmingly to launch a radical policy review.

Party leftists, mainly young grassroots activists, accused the hierarchy of planning to ditch Labour's socialist beliefs in pursuit of yuppie and blue-collar voters who helped Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to win a third five-year term in elections last June. But delegates to the week-long annual party conference endorsed overwhelmingly a proposal by leader Neil Kinnock for a policy review aimed at drumming up support among the better-off.

In a move to shift the party to the right, the conference endorsed a Kinnock-backed analysis of election defeats which concluded that Labour must not shy away from "the language of self-interest."

"The truth is that unless we change ourselves, the Conservatives are likely to dominate the politics of the '90s as they dominated the politics of the '80s," legislator Charles Petrie warned the 4,000 delegates. The big trade unions, who wield

huge block votes at party conferences, swung behind Kinnock to defeat leftist demands that the party organize anti-Thatcher street demonstrations and that its legislators disrupt parliamentary proceedings.

Kinnock, flanked by deputies on a podium decorated with the party's red rose symbol, took no part in the debate.

The conference opened in this south England resort against a background of sharp attacks from left-wingers on Kinnock's leadership and the party's policies.

Linda Bellos, a militant leftist and newly elected member of parliament, stirred a furor on Sunday night by accusing the government of fascist tendencies and saying Labour was not mobilizing to fight them.

"We are seeing rising fascism. We are seeing it in this country. What we have seen from the Tories has been horrendous and it is leading eventually to gas chambers," said Ms. Bellos.

The government responded with a demand that Kinnock should expel Ms. Bellos from the party unless she retracted the gas chambers charge.

135 die in Columbia mud slide

BOGOTA, Colombia (Reuters). — Frantic rescuers dug with their bare hands after a sea of earth, mud and rocks engulfed a shanty town in Colombia on Sunday, killing at least 135 people, injuring hundreds more and leaving an unknown number missing.

In one house buried by the deluge 30 children were celebrating a first communion. Parents rushed to the scene trying to dig their children out with their bare hands, witnesses said.

"You can only see the roofs of a few houses. People remain trapped and we are waiting for help to remove the earth with heavy equipment," a civil defence official told local radio.

The side of a hill overlooking Medellin, Colombia's second largest city, slid on to the shanty town after

heavy rains on Sunday. Hospital spokesmen said the bodies of 40 males and 48 females, aged four to 80, had been brought to the mortuary by nightfall.

Despite those still trapped, the city's mayor ordered a postponement of rescue work until dawn because of the threat of further landslides.

William Jaramillo Gomez, mayor of Medellin, an industrial city 350 km north-west of the capital Bogota, said inhabitants of the Villa Tina shanty town had been warned about the danger of a slide. He ordered survivors to vacate the houses still standing because continuing rain could cause more slips.

In 1985 the explosion of the Nevado del Ruiz volcano buried the small town of Armero under a sea of mud, killing 20,000 people.

S. Africa rains claim 40 dead

JOHANNESBURG (AP). — Four days of torrential rain in Natal Province left thousands of Zululand homeless yesterday as floodwaters overflowed dams, smashed bridges and poured mud across roads, rail lines and houses.

The record rains throughout the country, combined with hail, snow, lightning and wind, left about 40 people dead, half of them in traffic accidents.

The swelling streams rushed through low-lying black villages and townships, sweeping away hundreds of houses and carrying adults, babies, and cars down the rushing rivers in Natal. At least 15 blacks, nine of them children, were killed when mud buried their shacks in rural areas of the eastern province.

Black townships outside Johannesburg and Pretoria also reported waterlogged shanties, at least 48 of them destroyed.

Police reported the main bridge from Durban to the north Natal coast road collapsed yesterday morning, and two engineers who had been inspecting damage were knocked off it into a lagoon, then swept out to sea. The men clung to branches for more than an hour, talking with rescuers who were unable to reach them.

September rainfall records were broken throughout the country. Johannesburg recorded 180 mm. this month, the highest total in 96 years of record-keeping.

41 passengers burn to death in Indonesian bus fire

JAKARTA (AFP). — Forty-one people were burned to death when a bus caught fire on a highway near the East Java provincial capital of Surabaya last Saturday, a police spokesman there said Monday.

Forty out of the estimated 52 passengers were trapped and died on board, one died of serious burns at a hospital the following day, while eleven others suffered light to serious burns, the spokesman said.

Argentine officers protest transfer of commander

BUENOS AIRES (AP). — About 150 officers from an army regiment in suburban Buenos Aires confined themselves to their barracks for four hours Sunday night to protest the transfer of their commanding officer, the government news agency Telam said.

The unrest was the most serious military incident since Easter week, when officers from army regiments in Buenos Aires, Cordoba and Salta rebelled, demanding amnesty for officers accused of human rights abuses during the military rule of

1976-83. The uprising at regiment 3 protested the transfer of Lt. Col. Maguer, who had been notified that he was being sent 15 months early to an undisclosed post by army Chief of Staff Gen. Caridi.

Early Monday morning, Caridi and 10th Brigade commander Col. Vivas went to regiment 3 and obtained assurances from Maguer that the barracks had returned to normal.

Caridi said "the situation now is one of absolute normalcy."

Foreigners invited to bid for land lease in China

PEKING (Reuters). — A city in South China is offering to lease land to the highest bidder, whether foreign or Chinese, to build apartments, *The People's Daily* said on Monday. If foreigners win the bidding, it will be the first time they have leased land in China since the 1949 revolution.

All land in China is owned by the state. The newspaper's overseas edition

said that enterprises, including those owned by foreigners, in the special economic zone of Shenzhen next to the British colony of Hong Kong can bid for a 10,000 square metre plot.

Earlier this month, in China's first land auction, the Shenzhen city government leased a piece of land to a Chinese firm.

74-year-old Nazi gets life

EAST BERLIN (Reuters). — A former Nazi secret police officer was sentenced to life imprisonment yesterday for multiple crimes against humanity, the official East German news agency ADN reported.

Former Gestapo and SS officer Henry Schmidt, 74, had been specifically charged with sharing responsibility for organizing deportations of over 700 Jews from the Dresden area to forced labour sites and death camps. He was also accused of torturing prisoners.

Schmidt had the right to appeal, the agency said.

The prosecutor, Horst Busse, had demanded a life sentence for

Schmidt last Wednesday, saying there was overwhelming evidence to prove he helped cause the deaths of hundreds of German Jews in World War Two.

During the trial, concentration camp survivors gave graphic accounts of their suffering at Schmidt's hands and Polish war crimes experts provided written evidence of his role in organizing deportations.

Schmidt went underground after the war, using false papers to live a normal life near Leipzig, ADN, which has reported in detail on the trial, said he had been detained since April 1986 but did not say how he was caught.

Crocs to clean Ganges

NEW DELHI (AFP). — India plans to release crocodiles in the Ganges, the river in which millions of devout Hindus bathe annually, to scavenge for corpses and pollution, an official said here yesterday.

The authorities have reared some 150 crocodiles at a state-owned farm in southern Kerala State, and now plan to dump the reptiles into the river near cities where pollution levels are the highest, he said.

"They (crocodiles) were supposed to be of a docile species, but it seems the breeders bungled and reared attack crocodiles," a senior federal government official said.

U.S. bomber crashes

LA JUNTA, Colorado (AP). — A B-1B air force plane crashed yesterday during a training mission for the nation's newest bomber, but three of its six crew members parachuted to safety.

The other three crew members were unaccounted for, officials said. The crash was the first ever for a regular production model of the B-1B, although a prototype of the bomber crashed in August 1984 in the Mojave desert of California.

The bomber, attached to the 96th Bombardment Wing, took off from Dyess Air Force base in Abilene, Texas, early yesterday morning, bound for the strategic training range complex near La Junta, about 96 km. southeast of Pueblo.

OVERFLIGHTS. — Libyan warplanes made about 20 reconnaissance flights at the weekend over the mountainous Tibetan region in northern Chad, a Chadian spokesman said yesterday.

Fijian constitution scrapped

SUVA (AFP). — Coup leader Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka said yesterday that he had scrapped Fiji's constitution and was setting up a council of advisors, diplomatic sources said.

They said Col. Rabuka had told foreign diplomats he had abrogated the 1970 constitution and stated he would be announcing the appointment of a council of advisors to run the interim government late yesterday or early today.

Col. Rabuka was understood to have left the meeting with diplomats and gone to government house to dismiss the governor-general, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, but this could not immediately be confirmed. Earlier in the day Supreme Court judges told Rabuka that they would not recognize him as head of state, throwing their full support behind the constitution and Ratu Ganilau. The Supreme Court was suspended Friday when the colonel staged

his second coup in 19 weeks. Earlier it was learned that the judges had rejected the colonel's demand that they either work with his military regime or be removed from office. Chief Justice Sir Timoci Tuivaga said in an interview with Radio New Zealand yesterday that the judges "are still in office and will go to the courts today to hear cases," despite the regime's announcement that the courts have been closed.

Sir Timoci said that Rabuka had no legal authority and was acting illegally in all he was doing. One of the judges, Kishore Govind, was released Monday after being held for 62 hours by security forces. Govind, who had strongly criticized the coup of May 14, was arrested shortly after the second coup Friday. He was freed in time to attend a scheduled meeting between the judiciary and Col. Rabuka.

Bush plays to two audiences in Poland

WARSAW (AP). — U.S. Vice President George Bush signalled "great affection" and support for the outlawed Solidarity movement on Sunday while endorsing financial help sought by ruling Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski as he shuttled between two conflicting worlds in Poland.

"We support Solidarity and we support pluralism and we've been very clear on that" in discussions with government officials, the vice president told Solidarity figure Lech Walesa at a dinner hosted by Americans.

Walesa, who once was interned under martial law, said he was thankful for what Bush had done and was "asking for more."

With demonstrations of support for Solidarity erupting around him as he made his way through several public appearances, Bush also appeared at one point to flash a "victory" sign favoured by the organization's backers. "I assume he knew what the sign meant, said an aide who was asked later about Bush's intentions.

And the vice president's message was clear when he told an estimated 2,000 worshippers at a mass. "We in America have watched and suffered with you. But we are confident that you will not merely survive the present difficulties but that you will prevail.

"For our and your freedom," he added in Polish. Polish authorities made no attempt to interfere with Walesa's vis-

it to the American dinner.

But an opposition source in Krakow said police there detained an opposition activist taking part in an anti-government demonstration after a mass commemorating Bush's visit. Bush is to visit Krakow today.

Bush was midway through a four-day visit to Poland in which he is seeking better ties with the government and hoping to coax reforms from them.

Bush met with Jaruzelski for about 2½ hours, and aides said afterward they were pleased that two days of discussions had been conducted without serious difficulties.

One U.S. State Department official travelling with the vice president said Bush indicated the U.S. would be willing to support consolidation of Poland's debt to the Paris Club, a group of Western creditor nations. Poland is seeking help in coping with its large foreign debt.

The aides said Bush stressed the need for Poland to adopt economic and human rights reforms.

These aides also refused to say whether Bush told Jaruzelski that he favoured the legalization of Solidarity, only that he stated a desire for "trade union pluralism."

Bush's second meeting with Jaruzelski took place in a 17th-century castle that the government uses for ceremonial functions.

During his visit to a small private farm and a Catholic church outside Warsaw, Bush saw widespread evidence of public support for

Solidarity.

Although the Polish government selected the farm as suitable for Bush's visit, the owner, Jan Salwowski, was a former member of the rural Solidarity group.

In addition, someone tipped off Gabriel Janowski, an official in the regional Solidarity and he, too, was waiting to greet Bush.

One American source said a Polish official sought to gently nudge Janowski away but was unsuccessful.

After a brief tour of the farm, Bush went into the family house, where one unidentified person was wearing a Solidarity lapel pin. Also inside the house was a portrait of the Rev. Jerzy Popieluszko, a murdered pro-Solidarity priest.

The sentiment was even more obvious at St. Margaret's church in Lomianki outside Warsaw, where some of the worshippers as well as some of the altar boys held miniature American flags.

"Let's pray for Solidarity, which was banned by the authorities, and let us try to continue the good direction it was going," intoned the Rev. Jan Czerwinski as he said the mass.

And when the worshippers sang a service-ending hymn, hundreds of people also raised their hand in the victory salute that symbolizes support for Solidarity.

"The U.S.A. will never forget Poland," Bush told the crowd. "We respect you, we admire you and we love you."

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A Happy New Year and Well Over the Fast.

Visiting Soviet journalists describe 'winds of change'

'Humanization' benefits Jewish emigration

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Post Political Reporter

Two visiting Soviet journalists yesterday provided some of their Israeli colleagues with ample and living proof of the winds of change that are sweeping across the Soviet Union.

In a Jerusalem meeting that combined a press conference with some Soviet-Israeli journalistic dialogue, Pavel Demchenko, a member of Pravda's editorial board, and Sergei Kolesnikov, deputy editor of the Soviet periodical Kommunist, spoke openly and with surprising self-deprecating humour of their country's ills and of the "new political thinking" under the leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev.

One of the main obstacles to Jewish emigration in the past, they said, was the fact that in the Soviet Union, the bureaucrats — and not the law — ruled. There was a constitution and a complete set of laws promising social justice, "but the final word belonged to the bureaucrat" who operated in accordance with guidelines which were kept secret from the public.

The emigration laws have now

been publicized, and this has led to a process of "humanization." Thus, since January, the Soviet authorities have issued over 16,000 exit visas, 5,000 of which have been to Israel. There have been only 800 refusals, and 400 of these are under appeal.

What the West terms political prisoners, said Demchenko, are also being released, not only because of a relaxation of policy but also — as his friend who deals with emigration told him — because once the prisoners emigrate "they are quickly forgotten."

Most Soviet citizens are not very concerned about emigration. The problem of Soviet Jews who want to leave is, of course, quite distinct from that of "Soviet citizens of Jewish descent who are not sitting on their suitcases," said Kolesnikov. Speaking of Stalinist anti-Semitism, Demchenko added that "to this day I fail to understand why the so-called 'doctors' trial" of the early 1950s took place.

Demchenko, who specializes in Middle East affairs, also has problems understanding the "heavy layers" that burden Soviet-Israeli relations. He reiterated the standard

Soviet line that the break in relations between the two countries was a direct result of Israel's "aggressive policies" in the 1967 war, but pointed to recent signs of improvement, saying that "the train has already left the station and sooner or later it will arrive."

Israel's refusal to recognize the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinians is a "serious obstacle" to the convening of an international conference, he said. The problem is not who will represent the Palestinians at the conference, but Israel's refusal to recognize the "fundamental rights of the Palestinian people."

The international conference could also solve a "whole set of problems," including Israeli-Soviet relations, said Demchenko. "Excuse the comparison," he added with a smile, "but sometimes men and women sit around a table and after nine months a baby is born."

The Soviet's "new political thinking" should also apply to the "other side," the Soviet journalists said. Commenting on the internal debate here, Demchenko said: "The three boxes of Prime Minister Shamir" — to

an international conference, talks with the PLO and a Soviet role in the peace process — "have been erased by reality."

The news reports of Israeli production of Jericho II missiles coincided with the U.S.-Soviet talks on the elimination of medium-range nuclear missiles, and have therefore attracted Soviet attention. The emerging U.S.-Soviet pact aims at the total dismantling of such weapons, but "everything that Israel does is perceived by Soviet public opinion as involving U.S. participation and agreement."

"Israel is a declared strategic ally of the U.S.," said Demchenko, "and we take that very seriously." Thus, he explained, if Israel has 20 atomic bombs, then the Soviet people perceive them as being part and parcel of America's arsenal. The case of Mordechai Vanunu, which has received wide publicity in the Soviet Union, has only added fuel to the fire.

The Soviets embarked on a "cleansing" of their own house, said Demchenko, after they realized that they too suffer from the ills of "drug addiction, prostitution and porno-

graphic literature imported from the West." Soviet society is basically strong and healthy, but there must be something wrong "if we have the most fertile soil in the world but still need to buy wheat."

There is some opposition to Gorbachev's reforms, conceded Kolesnikov, but it does not encompass large segments of Soviet society. Bureaucrats who are losing their power or getting sacked and workers who are now expected to produce in order to get paid comprise two of the groups that are opposed to the Soviet leader.

The two visitors, who are here at the invitation of the Rakah (Communist) Party, which is holding a "Communist media festival," assured their listeners that glasnost is here to stay. But old habits are hard to break, as they themselves admitted. They repeated a joke now being told in Moscow:

One Soviet citizen calls up another and asks: "Did you see the lead article in today's Pravda?" "No," the person at the other end says, "could you tell me about it?" "That's not for the phone..."

Peres in Hollywood:

Big rock concert in Negev planned for 40th anniversary

By TOM TUGEND

LOS ANGELES. — Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was in a relaxed and jocular mood when he met with 200 representatives of Hollywood's music industry during his two-day visit here this week.

The main topic of discussion was a plan to enlist some of America's top rock stars in a massive concert next year in the Negev, as part of Israel's 40th anniversary celebrations. Pledging his support for the project, Peres promised the assembled record company executives, talent agents and managers that "Israel will supply you with the rocks if you'll bring the music."

While admitting his scant knowledge of the rock art form, Peres described all music as a way of praying, with such songs as "Let My People Go" and "Give Peace a Chance" being especially apt for Israel.

Danny Goldberg, president of his own record company and talent agency, gave a broad outline of the planned concert. He likened it to the successful Live Aid shows that raised money for famine relief in Africa. He said that the free concert near Dimona would be underwritten in the United States and would draw around 100,000 fans.

Although no final date has been set, it is likely that the event will be held in May. The timing will depend largely on the availability of the stars, and they cannot commit themselves until the date of performance is more definite.

Putting together a show with high-priced performers is always a complex venture, Goldberg said. But he noted with satisfaction that the meeting at the Beverly Hills Hotel was attended by such big names as Madonna, Michael Jackson, Tina Turner, Lionel Richie, Stevie Wonder and the Heart rock group.

A surprise guest at the meeting was Senator Gary Hart, the former candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination. The audience was largely, though by no means exclusively, Jewish, which did not surprise Goldberg. "A majority of the music industry, the people behind the stars, are Jewish," he said.

Another participant observed privately that as the Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr. crowd, the rising younger men and women of Hollywood should be trained to carry on the entertainment business' tradition of support for Israel. The most visible portion of this younger set tends to be connected with the rock industry.

In fielding earnest questions from his listeners, Peres first analysed the nature of Israel's national unity government.

"The earliest example of such a coalition was Adam and Eve," he explained with a straight face. "When they realized that they were the only man and woman around, and had no other option, they formed a national unity government and called it paradise. Paradise lasted until the first snake arrived."

In the same mood, the foreign minister repeatedly alluded to the absence of the promised brunch, showing his familiarity with Ameri-

can advertising slogans by asking "Where's the Beef?" He repeated the point when asked how well Israel was presented in the American press.

"Much of the news is without foundation, like your brunch," he responded, citing a call from a television network a few hours earlier about his supposed three-hour meeting with Iran's leader, the Ayatollah Khomeini. "However," he added, "we get better coverage in the American press than in the Israeli press."

As Peres left, a member of the audience offered an encouraging comment for the road. "As long as Sylvester Stallone is filming in Israel on the Rambo sequel," he said, "your country has nothing to fear."

During his two-day visit, Peres also reported some promising developments in Soviet-Israeli relations and repeatedly lobbied for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

On Soviet policy, officials accompanying Peres said that the Russians had agreed in principle that much of the work at the proposed peace conference would be carried out in the framework of "geographical" committees.

Under the committee structure, bilateral talks would be held between Israel and specific Arab countries, including a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. The concept was proposed by Jordan and endorsed by Peres.

The relative weight and influence of the geographical committees and the convening superpowers, a crucial point, was not determined in a New York meeting between Peres and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Peres said that another promising, if small, sign, was that the Soviet minister started the meeting by addressing him as "Mr. Peres," but after two hours, Shevardnadze bade his guest farewell as "Comrade Peres."

In his initial public appearance, Peres awarded a plaque and paid tribute to veteran Zionist and author Marie Syrkin.

Other items in Peres's full agenda were: A small dinner with big contributors, who reportedly each pledged at least \$100,000 to Jewish causes for the honour.

An early morning breakfast with 120 members of the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce, followed by a ceremony with Mayor Tom Bradley, officially launching Los Angeles activities celebrating Israel's 40 years of statehood.

A major public address at the World Affairs Council, followed by an appearance at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he received a special UCLA Award for International Achievement.

The final agenda item of the visit was a community rally, sponsored by the Jewish Federation Council.

In between, Peres held numerous private meetings with prominent people associated with the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), Israeli Bonds and the United Jewish Appeal.

Peres is to address the UN Security Council today.

Most accidents on roads due to drivers' behaviour

By LISA PERLMAN
For The Jerusalem Post

Forcing people to wear seatbelts in towns may not reduce the number of accidents but will probably cut down on casualties, according to road safety experts. But seatbelts are only one small measure, and researchers have evidence suggesting that coping with drivers' behavioural problems may do more to reduce the carnage on the roads.

Of the approximately 12,000 accidents recorded by police annually, 95 per cent show driver involvement and 65 per cent show the driver to be the sole cause of the crash.

It took about five years to push through the existing legislation which obliges drivers and front-seat passengers to wear seatbelts on inter-urban roads. The first efforts to enact legislation covering city driving were made three years ago. They have now met with partial success, with Transport Minister Haim Corfu's decision on Sunday to issue a six-month administrative regulation extending the seatbelt law to all roads. Corfu's decision still requires Knesset approval.

Dr. Ada Wiener, head of the Medical Institute for Road Safety, said she would support the use of seat belts on all roads, but added that there were many other problems which also required attention. She said the police should take a tougher stand against traffic violators and impose stiffer fines.

She also noted that drugs, alcohol and emotional problems affected behaviour on the roads. Figures in these areas are unavailable because no one has researched the problem of drugs and alcohol on the roads "for years."

The Medical Institute for Road Safety, a Health Ministry body, deals with about 20,000 cases of "problem" drivers every year. This includes people with physical and mental handicaps, emotional problems (non-conforming drivers) and others who are sent by the police, the Transport and Defence Ministries, and the National Insurance Institute.

Psychologists at the institute try to "put the behavioural puzzle together" to determine whether some of the people referred to them should be stopped from driving altogether. The institute then makes its recommendations to the Transport Ministry, which usually accepts the advice but has the right to reject it.

Wiener says that worldwide the most problematic drivers are those under 24 and over 60. The older age group displays reduced concentra-

tion and slower reflexes; they tend to go through red lights and believe they are entitled to a certain amount of respect due to their age. The under-24s, on the other hand, simply behave as if the road were theirs.

Statistics show the safest age group to be that between 35 and 55. Israeli drivers are no more dangerous than others, she states, but each country comes with its own pressures. One of the major problems here is the hot weather, the effects of which can be alleviated by installing air-conditioners in cars.

Researchers at the Sleep Laboratory, part of the Technion's Faculty of Medicine, have found that in addition to the body craving sleep at night, most intensely between 3 and 4 a.m., "there is evidence of a mid-afternoon dip in alertness (12 hours later, at 3 - 4 p.m.), unrelated to lunch time or food intake."

According to Prof. Peretz Lavie, who heads the laboratory, those most susceptible to sleep disorders are men in their mid-40s. (This falls right in the middle of the safe-driver age group mentioned above.) Chronic disorders, he said, are characterized by falling asleep in passive situations during the day; and the problem is most prevalent among people who are overweight.

The laboratory surveyed 500 men who came to be treated for sleep disorders and found that 18.3 per cent had fallen asleep while driving "at least once." When asked: "Have you been close to an accident as a result of falling asleep behind the wheel?" more than 24 per cent responded positively. Forty-one of the 500 had been involved in accidents, and over a third of these accidents were caused by the driver falling asleep.



At yesterday's street-naming ceremony for Dr. Chaim Pazner, from left, Mayor Teddy Kollek, Prime Minister Shamir and Pazner's widow Regina.

Street named for Chaim Pazner

By ANDY COURT

Prime Minister Shamir and Mayor Teddy Kollek yesterday named a street in the Jerusalem suburb of Pisgat Ze'ev after the late Dr. Chaim Pazner, co-head of the Jewish Agency office in Geneva during World War II and later vice-chairman of Yad Vashem.

Pazner, who served in a number of senior government positions at home and abroad, spent the war years trying to rescue Jews from the Nazi death camps. His weapons were letters, lists, and documents, which he used to persuade the Germans to allow Jews to emigrate to Palestine in return for German nationals trapped there, or to at least

delay the transportation of Jews to death camps because they were about to receive their immigration papers.

Standing on the newly named road yesterday, Holocaust survivor Ya'acov Yannay held a copy of the letter that saved his life. Yannay, then 17, was in a Nazi transit camp in Holland, awaiting transportation to Auschwitz, when a letter signed by Pazner arrived.

The letter said that the family's immigration papers were on the way, which was enough to persuade the Germans to send them to a camp other than Auschwitz. Yannay did eventually receive papers to immigrate to Palestine. He and other

Dutch Jews travelled by train from Germany to Turkey in the middle of the war.

"We were sent through burning Europe," recalled Yannay, now a Foreign Ministry employee.

During the ceremony, Pazner's son Avi, now Shamir's media adviser, recalled his father's many services to the Zionist cause.

Kollek recalled the telephone conversations he had with Pazner during the war. Shamir remarked that Pazner had been an "organic part" of the Zionist enterprise from his youth.

The street named after Pazner is located near Rehov Hasheshashar, between Rehov Hasayeret Hayerusshalmit and Rehov Hei Ha'avir.

Tel Aviv to Jerusalem: The trip that terrifies

By BERNARD JOSEPHS
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The truck loaded with sheetglass swayed between the lanes on the high speed, accident-scarred Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway yesterday. It was one of those sharp downhill stretches that give relief to overheated engines tackling the long climb to the capital.

Not far behind was another truck, an articulated vehicle carrying tons of cement building blocks. What these two motors had in common, apart from their weight and their dangerous loads, was their position in the fast lane. Both were travelling well over the 90 kilometres an hour limit and indulging in the kind of mindless, bully-boy tactics favoured by too many drivers of heavy vehicles on the coun-

try's motorways. As the trucks hurtled along, the drivers of small passenger cars were left with little choice but to hang on and pray as their fragile vehicles bounced about in the bigger vehicles' wake.

Yesterday I was among them as I drove from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv and back. For much of the time my teeth were gritted. Packed Eggad passenger buses passed me as if I were barely moving, their wheels slicing menacingly across the white line dividing the lanes between us.

Pulling into the fast lane to pass a slow moving van, I was unable to return as a stream of vehicles overtook me on the inside. At the same time, a white Mercedes pulled up so close that I could almost feel the driver's breath on my neck as he flashed his lights impatiently.

At various intersections cars merging onto the highway pulled into the stream of traffic, either without looking or with suicidal intent. One red Subaru actually zipped straight into the fast lane and then back into the slow lane to overtake another vehicle on the wrong side.

Taxi drivers fairly took off as they accelerated along the gently winding stretch just before Ben-Gurion Airport. But despite their speed, many drivers had only one hand on the wheel. The other was hanging out of the window, cooling off in the slip-stream.

My experience was shared by many others who take their lives in their hands when travelling between Israel's two principal cities. An American immigrant, Roni Rabin, said: "Last night I had a really scary trip on the highway.

Overtaking is a nightmare. "I drove for 10 years in the U.S. and I feel like I've got to learn the rules all over again. When I got home last night, I felt I was really lucky to have made it, like I had just got out alive from a battle zone."

Yesterday I almost didn't make it. As we approached the entrance to Jerusalem on the return trip I signalled to pull into the right hand lane. At the last moment a Ford Escort decided to flash past me on the wrong side, missing my vehicle by inches. A police officer manning the checkpoint at the end of the highway stood watching, but he didn't seem very impressed. The Escort went sailing on and I was left cursing the fact that I hadn't taken his number.

A ministry spokesman told The Jerusalem Post that no workers have objected to the registration system, and that in fact they welcome the increased efficiency and technological advance that it offers. He added that there are "relations of trust" between worker and management, and no one will try to spy on employees to find out to whom they are speaking. Top officials, from the foreign minister himself to the deputy director-generals, have direct

Foreign Ministry's Tamir sees Hawke

Post Diplomatic Correspondent
Foreign Ministry director-general Avraham Tamir, on the penultimate leg of his tour of Oceania, yesterday met Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke. The two reviewed Middle East and East-West developments.

Tamir also met yesterday with Australian Foreign Ministry officials and discussed possible joint aid programmes to the island states of Oceania.

Tamir is due to fly tomorrow to Papua-New Guinea, before returning to Israel.

Record kept of Foreign Ministry calls

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Calls made by diplomats and other staffers of the Foreign Ministry are now automatically registered by a computerized phone exchange, noting the phone number, date, length of call and its cost.

The Defence Ministry has had such a device in Tel Aviv for about a year and its phone bill has been reduced by 20 per cent. According to its spokesman, Danny Weinrich, workers caught making lengthy phone calls have been reprimanded. But he adds that "no one has complained," and that the system was not meant to plug "leaks" to the press.

Despite this seeming invasion of privacy, the Foreign Ministry works committee has so far received no complaints from employees about the registration of calls, according to committee chairman Victor Harel. The new phone number of the ministry's headquarters in Jerusalem is 303111. The change in the phone number was necessitated by the installation of the TKI digital phone exchange that the ministry purchased from Telrad. It replaces

equipment that was leased from Bezek, the public telecommunications company, for a considerable users' fee.

All ministry staffers recently received notice from management informing them of the new exchange. They were informed that all calls routed through the exchange would be automatically registered. "The ministry's phone bills today are very high, and with the future multi-unit charge for local calls that are longer than five minutes, they may grow even more significantly," said the notice. "Thus we ask all the workers to cut down on the length of calls."

A ministry spokesman told The Jerusalem Post that no workers have objected to the registration system, and that in fact they welcome the increased efficiency and technological advance that it offers. He added that there are "relations of trust" between worker and management, and no one will try to spy on employees to find out to whom they are speaking. Top officials, from the foreign minister himself to the deputy director-generals, have direct

lines in their offices that allow them to make calls without registration by the computerized exchange.

The spokesman said he does not know if a check of phone calls is being made to find out if any employees are calling relatives abroad or out of town, or otherwise abusing their phone privileges. Relatively few ministry workers can automatically hook up with the international operator, he said.

Harel told The Post that the works committee had not yet considered the possibility of phone call registration. "If workers are upset, we will of course discuss the matter." But he added that there seems to be no intention by the ministry to check "leaks" to the press or find out who is "his uncle in America."

According to Bezek, there are tens of thousands of privately installed digital phone exchanges in the country, and many can register information about outgoing calls. But no one in government seems to have information on which other ministries use such monitoring devices, and who is using the information collected in this way.

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Moments of cowardice

HOW COULD IT HAPPEN that a group of nine national Jewish representatives, people who deserve respect for their lives of service to the Jewish community, could orchestrate an orgy of servility before the pope that could only remind us of the days of powerlessness in medieval European ghetto life?

Desperate to legitimate their own ceremonial Miami meeting with the pope, Jewish leaders sought a way to deflect attention from his outrageous act of contempt for the Jews: his hailing the world's highest-ranking former Nazi, Kurt Waldheim, as "a man of peace." What they sought was a serious dialogue in which they could at least hear from the pope how he justified his actions — and why he continued to oppose Vatican recognition of Israel.

What they actually got was a humiliating partial gesture. Each spokesman made a statement to the pope — and the pope then gave a 15-minute response, totally ignoring the Waldheim issue and sidestepping the Israel issue by saying that he has no theological objections (which, the Vatican later explained, meant that they have only political objections. Wonderful!).

Imagine that we had sent a delegation like this to ask Gorbachev to let Jews emigrate freely. What if Gorbachev had listened patiently and smiled approval — and then given a general talk about how much he appreciated the special pain of Jews, their special sufferings during the Holocaust, and their great contributions to the Soviet Union. Imagine that he had topped this by saying he had no reason based on Marxist doctrine for preventing Jews from emigrating (but Kremlin officials later explained that there were many political reasons why this could not be done). Would anyone in his right mind call this a dialogue, or a basis for holding a ceremonial event to honour Gorbachev in Miami?

The meeting with Waldheim strengthened the pope's hand with the traditionally anti-Semitic sectors of the Church in Europe, but it intensified the crisis of his moral legitimacy in America. The threat that his American tour would be marred by Jews refusing to go to Miami and by public demonstrations by Jews was significant precisely because the Waldheim issue seemed to crystallize the Vatican's moral illegitimacy.

For the first time in living memory the Jews had something the pope



Pope John Paul II meets American Jewish leaders, Rabbi Mordechai Waxman, centre, and Rabbi Gilbert Klappermann in Italy earlier this month. (AFP)

Michael Lerner

needed. But instead of demanding recognition of Israel, they made completely clear even before they left that for this delegation of Jews the fact of the Rome meeting itself was all they really yearned for. Because the meeting was all they demanded, it was all the Vatican had to give in return for obtaining the Jews' willingness to forget about Waldheim (and the pope's coming trip to Austria) and the legitimization ceremony in Miami. Instead of demanding recognition of Israel, they settled for recognition of themselves.

No mature observer of the Vatican would expect miracles — our relations with them will take time and patience. But it is self-destructive to declare victory and honour the other side for its great strides forward when the other side is giving nothing and is actually stonewalling. This encourages the other side's intransigence, rather than creating incentives for serious advances in the dialogue.

There are several ironies here: These same Jewish leaders condemn meetings with the PLO — because the PLO doesn't recognize Israel. Historically, the Vatican has been responsible for far more Jewish deaths than the PLO. Yet the Vatican refuses to recognize Israel. And, far from being

shunned, it was given public testimonials, first in Rome, then in Miami.

The pope intends to meet with Waldheim again when he visits Austria next June. Who in the Catholic world will take Jewish protests seriously — now that the Jews have shown how easily their anger can be bought off?

We in the liberal wing of the Jewish world are often dismissed as "only caring about the problems of others: blacks, third-worlders, the poor, the unemployed, but never to be heard from when Jewish issues are primary." Yet it is we who are challenging the Jewish establishment to stand up more forthrightly for Jewish interests in dealing with the pope, and it is we liberals who are insisting that nothing short of recognition of Israel will satisfy us.

JEWIS MUST give up their ghetto mentality and demand respect. Far from endangering us, as the men in charge of the Catholic dialogue seem to think, it is precisely the opposite: Jews are taken seriously when they demand respect, and they are in greatest danger when they are most obsequious and fawning.

One of the saddest parts of the current debate is that Jews have betrayed their historic role as the challengers to unjust constituted authority. It is the Jews who have always refused to bow down, physi-

cally or symbolically, to *metech basar vadam*, a king of flesh and blood. As the Purim story reminds us so well, it was this very obstinacy that accounts for so much hostility from the rulers of the world.

This is our unique function as a people: to remain witnesses to the One God even in the face of the many forms of idolatry that pervade the earth. If Jews could stay true to this mission even in times of severe physical insecurity, it seems all the greater a betrayal for us to abandon that role at a time when we live with the greatest physical security.

And this betrayal of Jewish ideals was also a betrayal of the needs of other Americans who might have followed us in questioning the ceremonial circus that was staged. The shameful capitulation in Miami will encourage all other Americans to fall into silence about their own moral problems with the pope.

If Israelis organized a peaceful but public demonstration at one of the Catholic offices or churches in Jerusalem as an act of solidarity with those of us who demonstrated in the U.S., it would be a clear message to American Jews: we want Jews to stand proud and angry *vis-a-vis* the Vatican. Far from hurting Jewish-Catholic relations, such a demonstration would help us to put it back on a track of mutual respect.

Dr. Lerner is Editor of *Tikkun* magazine, a bi-monthly Jewish critique of politics, culture and society.

The Sabbath that was

Judy Carr

WE STOOD on the balcony of the Jerusalem hotel — young tourists from England, looking out curiously at the almost deserted streets, experiencing the atmosphere of hush and tranquillity, mingling with the radiance of the sun on the golden stone of the buildings.

We were experiencing our first Sabbath in Jerusalem. It was the year 1960, before the days of the Old City, when Jerusalem was a small, almost provincial, town.

What was the Sabbath we had known in England? Getting through busy traffic to the synagogue. Shops open, buses and lorries racketing through the streets.

Here, the whole world seemed at rest. As a non-Orthodox girl brought up on the fringe of Judaism, I knew little of the laws and customs surrounding the Sabbath.

"It is true that one may not carry a

handbag on the Sabbath?" I asked a religious Jew, and wondered why he found the question odd.

When I immigrated to Israel two years later, I was not much more knowledgeable. But I cherished the memory of that Sabbath in Jerusalem. It was Keats' thing of beauty that is a joy forever.

I did not live in Jerusalem, but I wanted its Sabbath, which was not possible without travelling there on that day.

Never mind — I was not Orthodox and I wanted that Sabbath on my own terms. I took a *sherut* taxi to Jerusalem and landed in Zion Square. I tramped the silent streets, trying to absorb some of their stillness and take it back with me, as

though I could contain it in a bottle and hold it in my hands.

I found a tiny antiques museum that was open on the Sabbath and roved among the busts of Roman emperors and statues of Greek goddesses. Their stillness added to the serenity. It never struck me that there was anything incongruous about going to Jerusalem in a taxi to admire Aphrodite on the Jewish Sabbath.

I suppose I am wiser now. Some of the learning of my religious friends must have rubbed off on me. I have read a little and I know what is expected of you if you keep the Sabbath.

Now, I would not take a taxi into Jerusalem on the day of rest — certainly not in order to achieve stillness and serenity.

The Sabbath I knew in Jerusalem has vanished — maybe forever.

A HULA DANCER sways for them on Israel's Independence Day, and "Shaloha," a combination of "Shalom" and "Aloha," is the greeting at one of their synagogues.

"Sof Ma'arav," taken from Yehuda Halevi's "My heart is in the East and I am at the end of the West," is the name of another congregation. At the last community in the West, before the onset of the Far East, the Jews in Hawaii have the best of both worlds, they say, living in what has been called the greatest melting pot of the U.S.

At a Friday night service at a Hawaiian Jewish temple one can see many mixed couples with "happa haole" (half-white) children, says Cassie Tzur, a social worker with the Hawaiian Jewish Federation.

Captain Cook discovered the Hawaiian Islands in the late 1700s, which led to a slow influx of haoles (whites, including Jews) such as traders, sailors, whaling captains, and missionaries. Other immigrant groups, such as the Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese, and Filipinos, came to work the sugar plantations laid out in the 19th century. These groups eventually composed 50 per cent of the population, with the native Hawaiians becoming a minority, and everyone learning to live with everyone else.

"Hawaii is unique," says Nate Stein, the executive programme director of the Hawaii Jewish Federation, "in that there are only minority groups and there is a lot of tolerance towards different ethnic and religious groups, including the Jews."

In 1975, a synagogue was built on the Pearl Harbor naval base. The Aloha Jewish Chapel is supported by the military, and its members include civilians and military personnel. While some of the services now attract only a few congregants, the Jewish Chapel is a reminder of the acceptance of the Jews here, including the thousands of servicemen who passed through following World War II.

Numbered at anywhere from 10,000 to 20,000, the Jews in Hawaii are mostly unaffiliated. The Aloha Chapel has a few hundred on its mailing list, as does the Reform Temple Emanuel. Sof Ma'arav (Conservative), which rents its space from a Unitarian church, and

'Shalom' and 'Aloha'

Miriam Shenkar,
HONOLULU



A hula dancer at this year's Israel Independence Day celebrations in Honolulu.

Sha'arei Gan Eden (Orthodox) count their members in the tens, while most of the other congregations throughout Hawaii's seven islands are even smaller.

UNTIL RECENTLY, the Hawaiian Jewish community had an Israeli *shaliah* who taught Hebrew. Funded by the Hawaii Jewish Federation and the American Zionist Youth Federation, the emissary was also responsible for setting up community programmes, such as Israel summer tennis camps. Last year the *shaliah*

programme was discontinued, and Stein, an American, was hired as an executive programme director at the Federation instead.

"We have limited resources so we decided to concentrate on programmes that were more geared to our community than those provided by the *shaliah*," says Stein. "As a small community we could not afford both the *shaliah* and other types of programmes."

Finding a Friday night service on Oahu, the main island, is relatively easy, as these are conducted at both the Reform temple and the Aloha chapel; the temple even provides transportation. Saturday services are a little more elusive, however, as many of the congregants are (as a former Israeli resident of "paradise" said) "too eager to hit the surf." Even the Orthodox congregation, founded by Claire Draft, a New York Jewess who converted part of her home into a "shitebi," has trouble raising a minyan.

There are no kosher butchers in Hawaii, but a small number of Jews belong to a co-op which orders meat from the mainland.

Rita Leonard, who came to Hawaii 15 years ago, grew up with her grandparents in New York and spoke Yiddish before she spoke English. She has just completed an album entitled "Cradle Songs from Paradise" composed of lullabies in Yiddish.

ISRAELI FOLK MUSIC is also performed in Hawaii, says Uri Tadmor, executive director of the recently-formed Hawaii-Israel Chamber of Commerce, which hopes to attract Israelis to Hawaii. He says, "We are also interested in importing Israeli products into Hawaii; we have already started to do so in the areas of medical equipment and food." A new grocery will feature Israeli non-perishable dry food items such as soups and *felafel* mixes.

Israelis in Hawaii number close to a hundred (according to the Hawaii-Israel Chamber of Commerce), and work in a variety of occupations including the diamond, construction, and tourist industries. One shop, on the resort island of Maui, run by an Israeli, sells summer clothing imported from the bazaars of the Middle East.

The glory that was Greek Jewry

David Brauner

THE Jewish Museum of Greece is discreetly tucked away on the fourth floor of a nondescript building at 36 Queen Amalias Street in Athens. When a visitor rings the bell, the huge, paneled double door is opened before him and he is ushered into an unexpectedly vital world of Hellenism and Hellenism.

A volunteer guide personally escorts each visitor around the compactly designed building. My guide, Rosa Benvenisti, originally from Salonika, not only introduced me to the museum, but also to Jewish life in Greece yesterday and today.

Jews first came to the Greek city-states 2,287 years ago, which makes the Greek community the oldest in Europe. A synagogue dating from the 3rd century BCE was uncovered in the Athens' Arheia Agora (ancient city centre), located in the shadow of the Acropolis. St. Paul visited Thessalonika (modern Salonika) on his second journey c.49-52 CE and it is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles that the Jews there rejected his teachings.

After the fall of the Roman Empire, the Jews of Greece became known as Romanians in the Byzantine Empire. The Romanians Jews developed some unique traditions not found elsewhere in the Jewish world. For example, their wooden Tora cases are customarily fitted with metal loops at the top in which the women insert flowers after the reading of the Tora on Shabbat.

When the Jews were expelled from Spain and Portugal in 1492, the Ottoman Sultan Beyazit II welcomed the Sephardim, as they became known, to the cities of Edirne, Izmir and in particular, Salonika, where the Jews at one point formed a majority.

GREEK JEWS refer to Salonika as the "Mother of Israel." There, in order to conduct their affairs, the Greeks and Turks had to learn Ladino, and all shops were closed on Shabbat in deference to the Jews.

In its heyday the city boasted no fewer than 72 synagogues. Partly because Turkish law forbade synagogues from being higher or larger than mosques or churches, and partly because each community insisted on its own prayer house, the synagogues of Salonika were many and small.

With the Greek conquest of Salonika in 1912 in the wake of the Balkan War, most Jews became Greek citizens, went to Greek schools, and joined the Greek army. When the Italians invaded Greece in October 1940, Mordechai Fris, a Jew from Chalcis north of Athens, was the first high-ranking officer of the Greek army to be killed.

The Holocaust nearly annihilated the entire Greek Jewish population and struck a blow at Greek Jewish culture from which it can never recover. Of the 77,000 Jews in Greece at the outbreak of World War II, 65,000 or 85 per cent were murdered in concentration camps. Salonika made the greatest sacrifice — 46,091 Jews or 96 per cent of the pre-war population were lost.

Benvenisti belongs to the four per cent that survived. She said that the record of the Greeks in the Holocaust was uneven. On Corfu, the 1,800 Jews were turned over to the Gestapo. But on the island of Zante, Archbishop Chrysostomos and Mayor Lukos Karrer refused to

cooperate with the Gestapo and so saved all 257 Jews.

The Greek Orthodox Patriarch Damaskinos ordered all monasteries and convents to shelter Jews. The police chief of Athens, Angelos Evert (whose son Miltiadis is now the mayor of Athens) issued every Athenian Jew with a second identity card in a Christian name to help prevent capture by the Germans. "Sometimes it worked and sometimes it didn't." Examples of these duplicate cards are on exhibit in the museum.

AS FOR the manifestations of Jewish culture — the books, the religious objects, and the synagogues — virtually all were lost, destroyed, or scattered far beyond the boundaries of Greece. The Museum of Prague holds some examples of Salonika Jewish art, thanks to the so-called Rosenberg Commission. Alfred Rosenberg, the Nazi ideologist, headed a special staff which scoured the devastated Jewish communities of Europe for plunder to fill a "central museum of the defunct Jewish race," which was to be established in Prague after the war.

Today the Hellenistic Jewish community numbers approximately 6,000. Half of them live in Athens, the only population that is growing; 1,000 are in Salonika, a sad but active remnant of a once proud tradition; and the remaining 2,000 are scattered throughout Greece. In Athens there is a single synagogue and a Jewish day school.

Asked about the quality of Jewish life in Greece today, Benvenisti cited the anti-Semitic demonstrations which took place after the Sabra and Shatilla massacres in

1982. People shouted, "Why do we need the Jews?"

There has also been confusion within the Greek Orthodox Church, concerning the missionary activities of the Jehovah's Witnesses. The Jewish community has not succeeded in convincing the Church that Jews are in no way connected with the Witnesses and their proselytizing.

The Athens community proudly hosted this year's meeting of the European Jewish Congress, which took place September 5-7. Holding the meeting in Greece — for the first time — enabled the Jews of Europe to put pressure on the Greek government to establish full diplomatic relations with Israel.

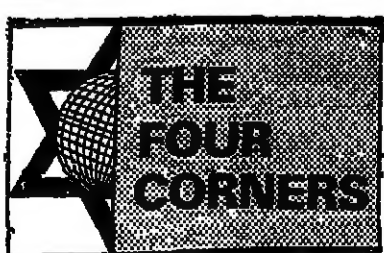
THE Jewish Museum was founded in 1977, at first occupying a room in the Jewish Community Centre. Three years ago it was moved to its present quarters on Amalias Street.

Most impressive of the museum's exhibits is the Alkabetz Synagogue found intact at Patras, a city on the northwest coast of the Peloponnese. The Friends of the Jewish Museum sometimes hold services there on Friday nights.

Benvenisti also took special pride in the ethnology display, which consisted of mannequins dressed in examples of eastern and western costumes seen in Greece in the last century. She told me that she and others had spent many hours repairing and re-embroidering original pieces of apparel and sewing replicas.

Some of the glory that was Greece's Jewry now has a chance for survival thanks to the work towards its preservation being done at the Jewish Museum of Greece.

Reformers back Army kipport: The Washington-based Centre of Reform Judaism is urging that all Jews press their senators to support a bill allowing members of the armed forces to wear yarmulkes. The legislation is being introduced by Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D., NJ) as an amendment to the Department of Defence Authorization Bill now being considered by the Senate.



Neo-Nazi elected to Bremen parliament: A candidate of a neo-Nazi party won a seat in the parliament of the federal state of Bremen in northern Germany this month, to the surprise and consternation of liberals and conservatives alike. Hans Altermann, a rightwing extremist, represented the Deutsche Volksunion (DVU), a party headed by neo-Nazi Gerhard Frey. Frey publishes the Munich-based weekly *National Zeitung* which claims to have "scientific" proof that the Holocaust was a fiction and the gas chambers "Zionist propaganda."

Immediately after the election, representatives of all factions in the *Burgerschaft* (state parliament) held a joint press conference at which they vowed to stand firm against Altermann's ideas. Bremen prime minister Klaus Wedemeyer of

the Social Democratic Party banned Altermann from entering municipal headquarters, though he will have access to parliament in a separate building. (JTA)

Amos Oz in U.S.: Novelist Amos Oz has been appointed the first distinguished visiting professor of Hebrew literature at the Hebrew College in Brookline, Massachusetts. He will teach a course on the fiction of S.Y. Agnon. Violinist Yosef Yankelov of Israel will be the college's first artist-in-residence, teaching "Jewish and Hebraic Elements in Western Music."

Record number on study tours: The over 100,000 Jewish young men and women from all sections of the U.S. and Canada who participated in the "Israel Experience" study tours in 1987 set a new record, according to Bernice Tannenbaum, chairman of the World Zionist Organization-American Section.

Tannenbaum praised the American Zionist Youth Foundation (AZYF), the Israel Aliya Centre, the North American Aliya Movement, and the Departments of Education and Culture, Tora Education and Culture, and Youth Aliya,

for "an outstandingly successful effort...enabling so many Jewish high school and college students to share one of their life's memorable happenings, which is also a personal affirmation of Jewish identity."

QUOTE

I once spoke to a rabbi who, though officially Orthodox, certainly identifies ideologically in many respects with the Conservative movement. He told me: "Actually, I should really go and *daven* with the Conservatives. And why don't I? They don't weep during the *Ne'ila* service (on Yom Kippur)." The 41 per cent "traditionally minded" Israelis (according to a 1979 survey) surely don't weep during *Ne'ila*, but they would rather attend a synagogue in which weeping can be heard.

Rabbi Aharon Lichtenstein, Head of Yeshivat Har Etzion (Cited in *Forum*, Summer 1987)

The Jewish World page, which appears on Tuesdays, is edited by Aryeh Rubinstein.

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Ezra's Australian connection

NOT MANY people are aware of the Ezra Association, founded in 1926 for the purpose of distributing funds for the health and welfare of mothers and babies. Today the association, which confines its activities to purchasing medical equipment for hospitals and clinics, is funded in good part by its Australian branch organization, founded in 1939 by Melbourne-born Rose Slutzkin and her daughter, Queenie Viva Davis.

The Slutzkins, a large and wealthy family with business interests here and in England as well as in Australia, virtually commuted between the three countries during a period when travelling from Australia was a tremendous undertaking.

The parents always took their large brood with them. Thus, Queenie Viva matriculated from the Reali School in Haifa and then stud-

ied at University College, London.

Returning here in 1938, Davis worked for a while as a translator at *The Palestine Post*, then as a teacher at Tel Aviv's Balfour Gymnasium. Back in Australia when World War II broke out, she and her mother decided to do something for the Yishuv. They established the Australian branch of Ezra, drumming up funds in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane.

Many years earlier, Rose Slutzkin had helped raise money to build a ward in the Hadassah Hospital on Mount Scopus. Later she helped build the maternity ward in Tel Aviv's municipal hospital. Slutzkin died in 1945, but her daughter has

kept up the good work.

Since then the organization's work has been evident in virtually every hospital in the country. Recent Ezra gifts have included a monitor for the intensive care unit at Haifa's Rothschild Hospital, an electric generator for Nahariya Hospital and funds to enable Jerusalem's Tipat Halav nurses to make house calls to new mothers.

One of the rules Slutzkin had set down for Ezra's fund-raising was that "if someone gives you £5 to send to Palestine then you must send £5." There was to be no trimming off the top for administrative expenses. Thus, the thousands of phone calls and other expenses incurred by Ezra's 30-member Australian committee are paid for by the members themselves and never billed to the organization.

A shot in the arm

BETH UVAL talks to Rabbi Pinhas Roitman about the Tora B'Zion Zedek youth movement.



Prayers at Tora B'Zion Zedek summer camp.

FOR TWO weeks this summer, Uri (assumed name) had an entire bed to himself, ate regular, nutritious meals, and experienced a pleasant green setting that contrasted strikingly with his crowded home in Ashdod's "Ezra Het" apartment blocks—all for the first time in his 11 years.

Uri was among 700 children who participated in a camp programme at the Ramat Shapir Educational Centres, organized by the Tora B'Zion Zedek youth movement.

Like most members of Tora B'Zion Zedek, Uri hadn't belonged to any youth group until this one opened its Ashdod branch two years ago. Uri's parents had never had the money to send him on school trips and he would be "sick" whenever one approached. Since he frequently attended synagogue with his father on Shabbat morning—and then listened to the soccer game on the radio in the afternoon—he felt out of place in both religious and secular youth movements.

The story of Tora B'Zion Zedek began with Rabbi Pinhas (Paul) Roitman, now permanent representative of the Consistoire de Communauté Juives (the French-Jewish umbrella organization created under Napoleon) in Jerusalem.

Roitman's curriculum vitae is impressive: leadership in the French Jewish World War II underground, arrest and imprisonment by the Gestapo, and 35 years of work with Jewish youth in Europe and North Africa. Roitman has been awarded the prestigious Israeli *Aleh* (fighters for the state) decoration and, in recognition of his 50 years of public service, was recently awarded one of France's most distinguished awards—officer of the French Legion of Honour.

Sitting in his modest Heichal Shlomo office, Roitman is eager to discuss not his awards and honours, but Tora B'Zion Zedek and the road that led to creating the movement.

After he was saved from the Nazis, "by a miracle," he says, Roitman decided to devote his life to rebuilding the remnants of European Jewry by working with its youth. To prepare himself for this task, Roitman dropped his pre-war plans to study medicine and became a rabbi.

In 1948, he became head of the French B'nai Akiva movement and in 1950, as director of the religious section of the Jewish Agency's Youth and Hehalutz Department for Europe and North Africa, Roitman began to organize schools, seminars and camps for Jewish youth throughout his bailiwick.

In the late 1950s, France absorbed a large influx of North African Jews. Roitman viewed these immigrants as a group that could give the weak French Jewish community a "shot in the arm," as he put it, and set about attending to their religious and social needs.

"If we hadn't responded to these needs, they would have been lost to Jewry," the rabbi says. "But the French Jewish establishment didn't see it that way."

The tens of thousands of immigrants were scattered throughout dozens of Paris neighbourhoods and elsewhere, says Roitman. "It was hard to get to them and no Jewish organization was even trying."

At the same time, Roitman was deeply troubled by another development—the growing number of young French Jewish intellectuals who were assimilating, "who didn't go to

the synagogue even on Yom Kippur." His solution to that problem was to recruit the assimilated young people to assist the immigrants.

"It was very hard at first, but within six months I had 15 young men and women. We began with one address in the Paris suburb of Orly, and within a month they'd found 68 families. Two of the young people started teaching the immigrant children and learning themselves as they went along. Others helped organize Shabbat prayers and provide kosher meat and other services," Roitman says.

TWELVE YEARS later, close to 370 young people had served some 20,000 immigrant families, congregations, schools, and a youth movement—Tora B'Zion—were established. Many of the young academics retained their involvement with the Jewish community and "about one fourth of them are now in Israel." The entire operation was conducted entirely by volunteers and "didn't cost anyone a cent," says Roitman.

In 1970, Roitman moved to Jerusalem as the Consistoire's representative, feeling that "35 years of youth work was enough." However, a chance visit to Jerusalem's Shmuel Hanavi neighbourhood changed that.

"There were many young children in the street at a time they should have been at home," he recalls. "I was told that their apartments were overcrowded and that there was no one to supervise them. Children from distressed neighbourhoods didn't find their way to the existing youth movements, either religious or non-religious. The religious movements took only religious children, and no one took those who were socially or economically marginal."

Deeply opposed to paternalism, Roitman came to the conclusion that children in neighbourhoods like Shmuel Hanavi needed a youth movement of their own. Drawing on his French experience with Tora V'Zion (Tora and Zion), he began to create Tora B'Zion (Tora in Zion). "Zedek" (justice), also the Hebrew acronym for *zion* (Zionist), *dait* (religious), *kehillat* (communal) was added to the movement's name later.

"I was told I wouldn't succeed, but I decided to try, anyway," says Roit-

man. "Lack of money shouldn't condemn a child to life on the margins of society. Schools impart knowledge, but only a youth movement can transmit religious, national, and ethical values," he opines.

Starting with 30 children in a Shmuel Hanavi shelter and a small group of young leaders, some of whom had worked with him previously in France, Roitman set to work.

"The first three group leaders were university people. It was interesting to see a math professor playing an accordion and teaching children songs and dances." Several of these 30 children have become leaders of the movement and one is now coordinator of the Jerusalem region.

When the original group grew to 80, the shelter became too small.

"Then God helped," says Roitman. The late Rabbait Fanny Kaplan, wife of the former French chief rabbi, raised funds to build a community centre in Shmuel Hanavi. The Fanny Kaplan Community Centre still houses the Tora B'Zion Zedek group in that neighbourhood. When additional Fanny Kaplan centres were built in Haifa and Beersheba, Tora B'Zion Zedek branches were established in those cities.

FROM ITS inception, Tora B'Zion Zedek has been a non-political movement that accepts any Jewish child, regardless of religious or social background. Once in the movement, however, the children, who come from both the state and state religious school systems, are taught religious and Zionist values in a non-coercive spirit. Great emphasis is placed on community service.

The Ashdod chapter, for example, maintains strong ties with the local civil guard unit. Almost all the movement's 11th- and 12th-grade boys volunteer for the civil guard, and have organized tutoring services for neighbourhood children. During last winter's nurses' strike, members of the Ashdod group—many of them immigrants from the USSR, Ethiopia, France and South America—volunteered in local hospitals.

"The children's activities are not only in the clubhouse, but 'decentralized' throughout the neighbourhood. We want them to grow up knowing how to contribute to their community," says Roitman.

Ashdod native Asher Hafouta, 24, is now the movement's national coordinator and its only full-time paid employee. "I grew up in Bnei Akiva, but I saw that Bnei Akiva wasn't interested in working with the kids in deprived neighbourhoods," says Hafouta.

The Tora B'Zion Zedek group leaders are deeply involved in the lives of "their" children, Hafouta asserts.

"If someone misses more than two meetings, the group leader goes to his home to find out what's happening, and they talk to the kids' teachers to find out if they need any special help."

One of these group leaders is Eli Haddad, 17, whose family emigrated from France five years ago. "I was in Bnei Akiva at first but saw that I was more needed here," says Haddad. "The Bnei Akiva kids know what a youth movement is, know what Shabbat is. Some of the Tora B'Zion kids come from homes with lots of problems and have no conception of these things."

HADAD AND several other Ashdod high school students spent the past Hanukkah vacation cleaning and painting an unused shelter near one of the elementary schools.

"The place was filthy, and the principal didn't believe we'd do it. We worked for about 100 hours," recalls Haddad.

The neat, cheerful shelter is now decorated with the Tora B'Zion Zedek emblem, with the words of the movement's song painted in blue on the white walls. On a recent Tuesday afternoon, several dozen eight- to 10-year olds, wearing the movement's blue tie, sat in clusters on the floor completely absorbed in the games their leaders were teaching them. The absence of roughhousing was striking.

The movement's entire administration is voluntary, as is the education committee headed by Eli Aziza, who grew up in Roitman's Tora V'Zion movement in France. Emile Dere, the movement's treasurer, "has helped bear the burden with me for years," says Roitman.

Tora B'Zion Zedek is financed almost entirely by private contributions. Thanks to "an anonymous donor who loves children," Roitman says, the movement was able to expand from 600 four years ago to today's 1,500 children.

Twenty-five Tora B'Zion Zedek chapters now operate in Jerusalem, Haifa, Beersheba, Ashdod, Ashkelon, Netanya, Or Akiva, Afula, and other locations.

"We don't go into areas where another youth movement is already serving the children. We've obviously been filling a vacuum and we've grown too fast for our resources," says Roitman.

"We could have twice as many groups. There's a demand for chapters in Safed, Tiberias, Beit Shean, Beit Shemesh, and other places, and only lack of funds keeps us from expanding."

Roitman is particularly excited about a recent development in the movement. Twenty-two 16-year-old group leaders met recently with a Nahal representative and have begun to organize their own Nahal *garin* (nucleus) as a framework for their army service.

"Who would have thought that a group of youngsters from places like Shmuel Hanavi would be organizing their own Nahal *garin*!" Roitman marvels. "This is ample reward for all the years of hard work."

Baby boomers: Candidates for depression

THE POST-World War II baby boom generation, who lived it up in the Sixties and are now reaching middle age, are expected to take their own lives in "alarming numbers" when they grow old, at least in the U.S. if not in other Western countries.

So says Duke University Medical Centre psychiatrist Dr. Dan Blazer, who reports that prevalence of depression is much higher among this generation than others and that it is a major cause of suicide. Quoted in the latest issue of *Psychology Today*, Dr. Blazer studied suicide rates of various age groups in the U.S.

Among the reasons for depression among the baby boom group of millions born between 1946 and 1964 are: the competitive job market, increased social stress and delayed marriage (and, therefore, the delayed establishment of intimate relationships). These people usually will have fewer children, a smaller social network, more frequent divorces and feelings of alienation, says Blazer.

Behavioural patterns usually remain quite constant as any particular population group ages, and baby boomers already show higher suicide rates than people who are currently between the ages of 65 and 85. These, concludes Blazer, are bad tidings for the years ahead.

EASIER SURGERY, with less discomfort and fewer complications for the patient is the advantage of a line of improved biodegradable plastic materials developed in Jerusalem and used in manufacturing bone supports, connecting pins, artificial blood vessels and surgical thread.

The researchers at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, headed by doctoral student Hani Younes, developed a new series of plastics under the supervision of Dr. Daniel Cohn, who is in charge of developing biomaterials at the university's Casali Institute of Applied Chemistry.

The new plastic material can be made up into a variety of shapes such as rods, films or fibres, and it is

can be made rigid, elastic or flexible. It decomposes slowly in the body after implantation, producing only harmless substances like carbon dioxide and water which are eliminated naturally.

The newly-developed artificial blood vessels made of this substance come in tubes of various diameters and consist of permanent knitted "skeletons" with a temporary filter that breaks down slowly as natural filter tissue replaces it.

Dr. Cohn is now trying to develop better dressings for wounds from these materials, as well as surgical thread that dissolves by itself after the wound has healed.

A SUDDEN increase in the number of cases of diarrhoea among young children has been reported by the Health Ministry in day-care centres in Ma'ale Adumim near Jerusalem. The ministry's chief epidemiologist denies that there is an "epidemic" of stomach cramps and diarrhoea among children around the country, despite such stories from doctors and pharmacists who claim that common anti-diarrhoea drugs like Sedistol and Imodium are almost unavailable.

The ministry says that there has been a "certain increase" in cramps and diarrhoea in children in the past few weeks, compared with the same period in previous years, but reports that "no epidemic" exists. Among the spots with increased numbers of cases are Ma'ale Ephraim and the Jordan Rift settlements but nothing has been found in the water supplies, to explain the phenomenon. In any case, the ministry advises that it is



Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

best not to give drugs to children with these symptoms, but only to ensure that they have adequate liquids by giving them the salt-sugar solution (Hydramin).

A MASS HUNT against ashtrays was held at World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva recently. Smoking has been banned in five of the six WHO regional offices—in Alexandria, Brazzaville, Manila, New Delhi and Washington—as well as because of the dangers of "passive smoking," in which non-smokers' health suffers when they inhale the cigarette smoke of others, the WHO has launched a campaign against cigarettes.

Dr. Halfdan Mahler, the WHO director-general, smashed an ashtray that was voluntarily collected by the workers. "As the world's conscience on health, we have decided to set an example," he said. WHO headquarters has become smoke-free, including the cafeteria, but excluding a small staff room on the top floor.

THERE IS HOPE for people who love eggs but who have high blood cholesterol. A Lancaster, Pennsylvania firm called Environmental Systems, Inc. has produced eggs with cholesterol at least 20 per cent lower than the norm. *Newsweek* reported recently that the American appetite for eggs has declined sharply in recent years because of the increasing awareness of the danger of cholesterol. Ordinary eggs contain a high level—some 275 milligrams each.

The lower cholesterol levels were produced by the company by modifying the hens' living environment—making them feel as if they were in an outdoor setting. The firm purified air in the henhouse, reduced dust and ammonia levels, drinking water clean of chemicals and "artificial sunshine."

The chickens' diet was also changed, with new nutrients and a better grade of corn, soybean meal, brewer's mash and vitamins offered. The company is ready to franchise the system for American farmers and install it at the cost of about \$1 per hen.

SOVIET AND Western surgeons have performed complicated eye surgery in a DC8 jet plane on the runway of Moscow Airport. The plane is owned by the international charitable organization Orbis, which aims at fighting blindness around the world. It has already flown to 45 different countries, the latest of them being the Soviet Union.

A five-year-old Russian girl with cataracts was brought to the back of the jet for the surgery, which was performed by ophthalmologists from the U.S., Britain, Canada, France and West Germany. Soviet doctors joined in the surgery, while others merely observed, learning the techniques. The jet is equipped with lasers that saved a 62-year-old Soviet woman from going blind as the result of her diabetes.

Today is edited by Amy Levinson.

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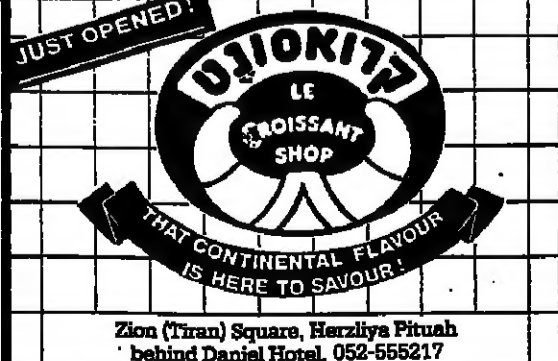
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The Third World debt problem

Sharp differences between the borrowers and lenders

By RUTH SINAI

WASHINGTON (AP).— The finance ministers of the United States and Brazil, the largest debtor in the Third World, disagreed sharply this weekend on ways to solve the problem of the massive debts owed to American and other creditors.

The World Bank estimates the Third World debt at more than \$1 trillion dollars.

U.S. Treasury Secretary James A. Baker, addressing the interim committee of the International Monetary Fund, praised what he called progress over the past five years on the debt problem, saying the United States and its economic allies had developed a strategy that has improved debtors' hopes of regaining creditworthiness. That would mean "voluntary" loans to them by commercial banks, without the present need for pressure from the fund and governments.

The interim committee, which makes decisions for the 151-member fund, held a day-long meeting on Sunday as part of the annual conference of the IMF and its sister organization, the World Bank.

The United States is the biggest contributor to both organizations.

Brazilian Finance Minister Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira told the committee that "the facts demonstrate the exhaustion of the strategy that has been pursued since the outbreak of the external debt crisis" in 1982.

Pereira, a leader of the IMF's "group of 24" Third World nations, contended that "the situation of debtor countries is unbearable."

Brazil has paid no interest since February on \$70 billion of loans from commercial banks, and has paid no principal for years.

Representatives of Group-24, meeting Saturday in Washington, threatened that more debtor countries may limit or suspend payments.

Baker reiterated his past proposal on the debt crisis, calling for economic growth in the developing countries to be achieved through policy changes such as government spending cuts and currency devaluation.

He said that such reforms had already resulted in an average 3.7 per cent economic growth in the major debtor countries in 1986-1987, and that annual growth in external debt had been sharply reduced. Banks have cut back their lending sharply.

As an example, Baker praised the

Philippines for turning around its growth rate. In 1985, the Philippine economy contracted by 4 per cent. Growth of 4.5 per cent is predicted for this year. He said this had been achieved through tax reform, encouraging imports and slashing government bureaucracy.

Baker urged improvement in the way financial support is provided to debtor governments. He wants a market-oriented approach to encourage growth of the private sector in the Third World.

Pereira said the debtor countries had already "exhausted their internal and external adjustment capacity," and could not carry out recommendations like Baker's.

He blamed the sluggish economies of the creditor countries for insufficient financing to prop up the debtors. In that way, he contended, economic growth in the Third World has been prevented.

Pereira urged a long-term solution to the debt crisis to include a reduction in interest rates and a restructuring that would give debtors more time to repay.

He also called on international financial institutions such as the

fund to transform part of the debt into guaranteed securities.

But Netherlands Finance Minister H. Onno Ruding, chairman of the committee, urged members when he opened the meeting to resist the call for the fund to guarantee lenders against bad credit risks. That, he said, would amount to a bail-out.

Some political figures, including U.S. Senator Bill Bradley, a Democrat, want to see Third World debt partly forgiven.

Last week Richard Feinberg, vice president of the Overseas Development Council, estimated that \$40 b. a year flows from the poorer nations to the richer ones, much of it in interest on loans.

In past periods capital has tended to flow from rich countries to poor ones, largely as new loans and investments.

There is little support among creditor governments for reducing interest rates. But Ruding said earlier that a consensus is emerging to delay repayments and grant long grace periods to the poorest countries — those where the annual per capita income is less than \$790. This proposal does not include Brazil and other "middle income" countries.

BANKING ON IT/Pinhas Landau

The go-betweens

One of the more specialized, but apparently quite lucrative, areas of investment activity in Israel is that concerned with foreign markets. Given the stringent foreign currency controls still in force, the only people for whom investing abroad is a legally valid option are foreign residents, whether tourists or expatriates working in Israel, and new olim and some returning Israelis, who have the right to hold and operate "free" foreign currency accounts.

Nevertheless, despite the small number of potential customers, the amount of money involved in these groups of high net-worth individuals is sufficient to attract a growing range of financial services outfits seeking their custom. One example of just how far this trend has gone was the series of adverts run in *The Jerusalem Post* earlier this year by the British Halifax Building Society, urging ex-Britons to invest their money in tax free accounts operated by the largest of the British equivalent of savings and loans.

The truth is that small investors are having a hard time in most places nowadays, because despite much lip-service to the ideals of providing broad financial management, few companies anywhere can devote expensive time and technical resources to the small investor.

The Halifax was a newcomer to the field, in the wake of a new law freeing building societies to offer most of the services that had hitherto been the sole preserve of commercial banks in the UK. But its rationale in seeking clients in Israel was based on solid market research that indicated the presence of many potential account-holders in this country.

These people are the targets of a growing band of brokers and counsellors. Some of these firms, such as the well-established Oscar Gruss brokerage firm in Tel Aviv, and its more recent rivals, Clal Investment House and Comstock Trading, offer mainly retail brokerage services for personal clients, with links to major U.S. trading houses. The changes in the Israeli economy in recent years have had the effect of driving them more in the direction of corporate business such as hedging in financial futures, especially since the number of individuals allowed to invest abroad has been cut by government decree. The change of emphasis in their activity has meant that small and medium-sized would-be investors in foreign markets have even fewer places to turn to obtain investment advice on an ongoing basis.

The truth is that small investors are having a hard time in most places nowadays, because despite much lip-service to the ideals of providing broad financial management, few companies anywhere can devote expensive human and technological resources to the small investor. One portfolio of one million dollars is much more highly prized than 10 people with \$100,000 each.

while 100 people with \$10,000 apiece are just a noisy crowd of nuisances to most firms.

A new approach that seems to be catching on in Israel is to provide services that link individual customers and major institutions. The premise is that for clients far removed, both physically and perhaps psychologically, from the U.S. and other markets, a money management function is both worthwhile and effective. The intermediary in effect acts as a broker for the institution or institutions he has linked up with, and shares the commissions generated. He will also usually take a fee from his customers, so that he works neither solely on a commission basis, which would spur him to generate trading activity whether or not it was necessary, nor should he be tempted to indulge in passive and ultra-conservative management based on merely collecting a fixed fee.

One novel variation on this theme has been introduced recently by an American firm called Windsor. Set up recently in New York by Sonja Kohn, a highly-experienced investment specialist lately of Merrill Lynch, in conjunction with South American investors, Windsor is seeking to fill a niche that, even in the crowded New York market, has gone begging. It offers investment management and analysis services for small and medium-sized foreign banks so that they can give their customers the same level of services as if they had a fully-staffed New York office, but at a fraction of the cost. Windsor has an arrangement with Oppenheimer and Co. for back-office, custodian and other administrative tasks, so that its clients have the safety and efficiency of a major firm plus the personal attention and expertise of a small specialist outfit, which prides itself on its international orientation.

One of Windsor's team, Chicagoan Marc Herskovitz, recently made aliyah and has set about building up the firm's business here. Apart from the personal clients that he, from his days at Bache, and Kohn and others at Windsor, already have here, he is attempting to interest the Israeli commercial banks in Windsor's management services.

As is well-known, all the Israeli banks have some sort of foreign investment facilities available for their customers, but these are of a low level for the most part, and serious customers work through local brokers or, more often, through Switzerland.

Windsor is seeking to offer management services to the banks at the wholesale level, which the banks can then sell to their own customers as a retail service. In an era when all the banks are determined to generate more fees from off-balance-sheet business, Windsor believes it will achieve a more positive response than would have been the case a few years ago, when the banks were satisfied to have large deposits lying dormant. Herskovitz's initial discussions, at least with the smaller banks, give him grounds for hope that the idea may be one whose time has come.

Thus Windsor will not join the queue of firms seeking the accounts of high net worth individuals. It will leave that to the banks, whose marketing networks and contacts with customers are more developed. What it will do is fill in the holes in the banks' own services by providing high-level analysis and counselling for the banks to give to their clients. It makes sense in theory; it remains to be seen whether it will work in practice.

The new tokenism

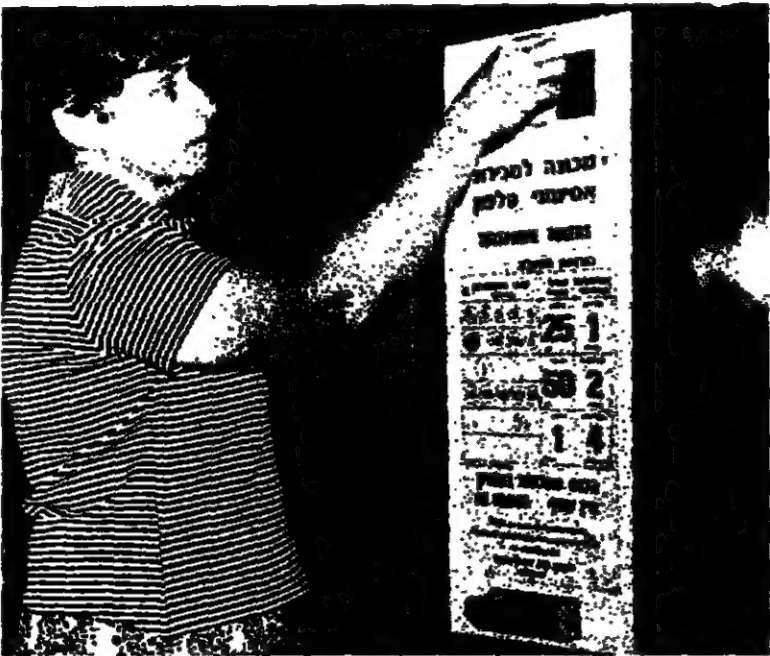
By Judy Siegel

Unlike most Western European countries, Israel has never worried about foreign tourists who want to make overseas calls from public telephones. Unless they want to call collect, they have to go to a special public phone in the central post offices of the three major towns from which this "complicated operation" is possible.

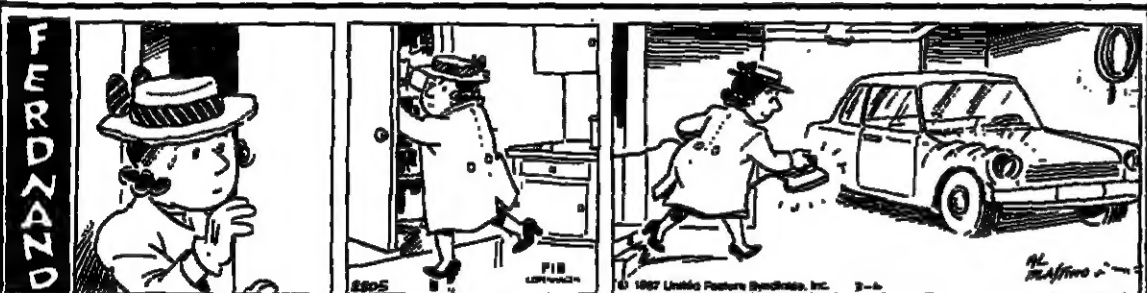
But there is good news for tourists, although they will have to wait a while. By the end of 1988, Bezek — the public telecommunications company — will begin an experiment of installing new public phones that operate without tokens and use a magnetic card instead. You will purchase a card with a designated worth of phone calls, and the amount of calls electronically removed from the card will depend on how long you speak and the destination of the call.

According to Bezek, today's public phones cannot accept the insertion of as many tokens as needed to make a long-distance call. "They would stop up the works," says a Bezek spokesman. In Europe, there are special phones that allow coins to be inserted for long-distance phones. But Bezek insists that these are an "interim arrangement" that will be skipped here, as Israel will soon be ready for the next generation of sophisticated electronic public phones.

The advantages of the magnetic card is that it is easier to keep in your pocket, the phones don't have to be emptied of tokens regularly, there are no tokens to clog the mechanism and vandalism is less common. If the experiment succeeds, Bezek plans to replace gradually all of its 14,000 public phones with the magnetic-card models.



While waiting for the new phones, old-fashioned telephone tokens can now be bought from automatic dispensers. (Elihu Harari)



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Frightful result of breaking fifty dish covers (4,7)
- 9 Unmanageable pair of sailors a Scot takes on (9)
- 10 & 11 Top flat, cool inside? (5-6)
- 12 Temporary suspension (8)
- 13 One short-handed at the mine? (6)
- 15 Take a moment to identify Dante's love (5)
- 18 Well brought up but lacking in refinement (5,3)
- 19 Exercises in vehicles for escapades (6)
- 21 Overall tip to gardener with poor soil (3-5)

DOWN

- 23 Sticky biscuit leaving two monarchs in pain (6)
- 26 Where prohibition is very much in force in Scotland (5)
- 27 Bad enamel work subject to improvement (9)
- 28 A bewitching queen, in class competition (5,3)
- 1 Clear backlog with relish (5,2)
- 2 Grub in the making (5)
- 3 Impasse of sorts for me at least (9)
- 4 Second one is bound to be a flier (4)
- 5 Made a peer appear, we hear, in the finish (8)

Yesterday's Solution

BATHING POOL
LOVE
AIR PARTNERSHIP
WIFE F D S TALE
C O I R M P
H A V E N O T T O T I T U P
E O T R A I N I E R
R O C K T O W E R G A
W O R L D C H A M P I O N
M I R A C L E F O U R
N O T A B L E I N F O R M A T I O N

QUICK SOLUTION

ACROSS

- 1 Observe (5)
- 4 Weiried (5)
- 8 Unit of heat (5)
- 9 Claimed (anag.) (7)
- 10 Standoffish (7)
- 11 St. Columba's island (4)
- 12 Spirit (3)
- 14 Cozy (4)
- 15 Poisonous tree (4)
- 16 Sweet sleep (3)
- 21 Egg-shaped (4)
- 23 Pupil (7)
- 25 Unimportant (7)
- 26 Piped instrument (5)
- 27 Impoverished (5)
- 28 Suave (6)

DOWN

- 1 Still battling (3,3)
- 2 Less majestic (7)
- 3 Military operation (6)
- 4 German composer (4)
- 5 Ardent lover (5)
- 6 American buck (6)
- 7 Snake (5)
- 13 Edible fungus (8)
- 15 Musically quick (7)
- 17 Massachusetts' capital (6)
- 18 Sacred song (5)
- 20 Language (6)
- 22 Breathing (5)
- 24 Minute (4)

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Cholim, Bnei Brak, 522191; Bnei Brak, 522191; Shu'at, Shu'at Road, 810108; Dar Aldeira, Herod's Gate, 282088; Tel Aviv: Hakira, 19 Ibn Gabirol, 204600; Kupat Holim Ma'aleh, 15 Sprinkler, 282023; Ramat Gan: Kfar Sava: No details available; Netanya: Porat, 76 Patah Tilva, 340987; Kfar Sava: Niv Hatzayon, 73 Sderot Ben-Gurion, Kfar Sava, 734777; Haifa: Hanassi, 33 Sderot Hanassi, 333312.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (pediatrics, E.N.T.), Bnei Brak (Internal, obstetrics), Sha'ar Zedek (surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology); Tel Aviv: Rotsch (pediatrics), Ichilov (Internal, surgery); Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE 100

Dial 100 in most parts of the country. In Tiberias dial 34444, Kfar Shimon 4444.

FIRE 102

In emergencies dial 102. Otherwise, dial number of your local station as given in the front of the phone directory.

FLIGHTS

24 - Hours Flight Information Service. Call 03-5712404 (multi-line), Arrivals Only (Taped Message) 03-381111 (20 lines).

FIRST AID 101

Magen David Adom

In emergencies dial 101 in most parts of the country. In addition:
Ashdod 51332 Jerusalem 523133
Ashkelon 23333 Kfar Shimon 94694
Bat Yam 561111 Kfar Sava 734777
Be'er Sheva 74767 Netanya 723333
Bnei Brak 522191 Patah Tilva 340987
Dan Region 781111 Patah Tilva 340987
Eilat 72333 Rehovot 451333
Haifa 512223 Rishon LeZion 42333
Hadera 72333 Sderot 734777
Holon 52333 Tel Aviv 523111
Jerusalem 523133 Tiberias 780111

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Enn - Emotional First Aid, Tel. Jerusalem 227171, Tel Aviv 5461111 (children/youth 03-281133, Haifa 82222, Be'er Sheva 418111, Netanya 33318).

Rape Crisis Centre (24 hours), for help call Tel Aviv, 234819, Jerusalem - 245554, and Haifa 550111.

The National Police Control Centre at Ramat Hashikma, phone (04) 523205, for emergency calls, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

Kupat Yehuda Information Centre Tel. 03-433300, 433600 Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Clal pre-tax profits triple in first half

Post Finance Reporter

Clal Israel Ltd., the biggest conglomerate in the Israeli private sector, reported pre-tax profits of NIS36 million in the first half of 1987. In the equivalent period of 1986, the company made NIS10.9m., and for the whole year, NIS 27m. The tax bite on these gross profits fell sharply, from 81 per cent last year, to 42 per cent in the current year.

However, whereas in 1986 the after-tax profits were boosted from NIS 2m. to NIS 8.9m. because many Clal affiliates made losses and these were borne, in part, by minority shareholders, this year the after-tax profit of NIS 20.8m. was reduced by NIS 8.5m., which represented the

stake of minority holdings in those companies. Thus the growth of net profits, by 37 per cent, to NIS 12.3m., was far more restrained than the surge in pre-tax profits.

Clal's financial position was marked by a further improvement in its working capital and widespread capital raising. Working capital rose by NIS 37m. to reach NIS162m. on June 30, 1987, and short-term liquid assets totalled almost NIS200m. Total shareholder's equity amounted to NIS434m., and with the addition of minority rights, to NIS 870m., or 1.6 times total long-term obligations.

In a comprehensive review of Clal's widespread interests, manag-

ing director Aharon Dovrat noted the sharp improvement in Clal Trading's profits, and the achievement of a small profit by Clal Industries. However, he pointed out that the 1.6 per cent return on capital in the industrial division was still far too low for the efforts and risk involved. Tough competition in the life insurance market was the main cause of a fall in profits in Clal's rapidly growing insurance group, according to Dovrat.

Clal's management expects the positive trend in its affairs to continue, despite the problems it is encountering in exporting to dollar-bloc countries and sales to the Israeli defence sector.

WORLD BANK PUBLICATIONS FOOD AND NUTRITION

Adapting the Training and Visit System for Family Planning, Health, and Nutrition Programs / Stock #WP0682 / NIS 9.20

Agricultural Marketing Strategy and Pricing Policy / Stock #WP0680 / NIS 34.50

Agricultural Trade and Food Policy: The Experience of Five Developing Countries / Stock #WP0724 / NIS 9.20

Benefits and Costs of Food Distribution Policies: The India Case / Stock #WP0506 / NIS 9.20

Confronting Urban Malnutrition: The Design of Nutrition Programs / Stock #JH2261 / NIS 12.00

Differences in Income, Nutrition, and Poverty within Brazil / Stock #WP0505 / NIS 9.20

Economics of Supplemental Feeding of Malnourished Children: Leakages, Costs, and Benefits / Stock #WP0451 / NIS 9.20

Food Distribution and Nutrition Intervention: The Case of Chile / Stock #WP0512 / NIS 9.20

Food Policy: Integrating Supply, Distribution, and Consumption / Stock #JH3500 / NIS 30.35

Food Policy Analysis / Stock #JH3073 / (English), 180/74

Food Policy Issues in Low-Income Countries / Stock #WP0473 / NIS 9.20

Food Security in Food Deficit Countries / Stock #WP0393 / NIS 6.45

Health, Nutrition, and Family Planning in India: A Survey of Experiences and Special Projects / Stock #WP0507 / NIS 9.20

Impact of Changing Affluence on Diets and Demand Patterns for Agriculture / Stock #WP0785 / NIS 9.20

Integrated Nutrition and Health Care / Stock #JH3064 / NIS 54.30

International Finance for Food Security / Stock #JH3070 / NIS 27.00

Patterns of Food Consumption and Nutrition in Indonesia: An Analysis of the National Socioeconomic Survey, 1976 / Stock #WP0670 / NIS 9.20

Population and Food: Proceedings of the Fifth Agriculture Sector Symposium / Stock #BK0593 / NIS 18.40

Poverty and Hunger: Issues and Options for Food Security in Developing Countries / Stock #BK0678 / (English) #BK0760 / (French), #BK0761 / (Spanish) NIS 13.80

Poverty, Undernutrition, and Hunger / Stock #WP0597 / NIS 9.20

Prospects for Food Production and Consumption in Developing Countries / Stock #WP0596 / NIS 6.45

Targeting Food Subsidies for the Needy: The Use of Cost-Benefit Analysis and Institutional Design / Stock #WP0617 / NIS 9.20

Trends in Food and Nutrient Availability in China, 1950-81 / Stock #WP0607 / NIS 14.70

World Development Report 1986: Trade and Pricing Policies in World Agriculture / Hardcover Stock #OX0517 / NIS 47.85

Paperback Stock #OX0518 / (English), 180/85 / (Arabic), 180/85 / (French), 180/85 / (German), 180/76 / (Spanish) NIS 18.30

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For the first time in 18 months Industrial output falls by 2 per cent

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

Industrial production went down by 2 per cent in the second quarter of the year, after 18 months of continued expansion, the Central Bureau of Statistics disclosed yesterday. The bureau added that the drop in industrial output reflected a 5 per cent decrease in the production of the metal, electronics and machinery sector. This sector has been heavily affected by the drop in the dollar's value in recent months, since its exports are paid for in this currency.

The bureau said that due to the rise in industrial production in the six previous quarters, its level was still 7.5 per cent higher than the one for the same period last year. Employment was also higher, the bureau indicated, but it increased by only 3.5 per cent. In the number of days worked there was in the first half of the year an increase of 1.5 per cent over January-June 1986.

Such figures indicate that productivity in industry went up, by some 4 per cent. The bureau also reported that daily wages for the first half of the year were 9 per cent higher than in the same period for 1986 and 7 per cent higher than in the last six

months of last year.

Detailed employment figures showed that the increase in industrial employment took place in the "traditional" sectors. The number of employees in the manufacturing of food and beverages went up by 5,000 compared to the first half of 1986. In the clothing and apparel sector, the number of workers rose by 4,000, while in printing it increased by 1,100. In the electronics and metal industries employment went down. The number of workers employed in this sector dropped by 4,500.

The figures showed that there were widespread differences among the industrial sectors in the first half of the year. Increases of over 15 per cent in output were registered in the food and beverages industries, in printing, in rubber and plastics and in chemical products. Large increases, of over 10 per cent, took place in the clothing and apparel sector, in industries manufacturing wood products, leather goods and paper.

On the other end of the ladder, output drops of 10 per cent were registered in the production of transport equipment. The output of electronic goods dropped by 3 per cent.

Licence to fly for Eastern Europe

By JONATHAN KARP
For The Jerusalem Post

Direct flights between Yugoslavia and Israel are to begin by the end of the year, after Transport Minister Haim Corfu yesterday granted an operating licence to the Yugoslavian charter airline Adria.

Adria is to operate one or two flights a week, starting December 18, between Belgrade and Tel Aviv, according to the Yugoslav airline officials who recently arrived here to conclude the negotiations. They added that they expect to bring 8,000 Yugoslav tourists to Israel during their first year of operation.

The true importance of the agreement to the authorities here, however, is not commercial, but rather diplomatic because it signifies the growing ties between the two countries and will give Israel direct air links with a second Eastern European capital, after Bucharest.

Corfu said he hoped this step - the first such agreement with Yugoslavia - would help lead to the normalization of relations between Jerusalem and Belgrade, which were broken off in 1967.

Though the agreement does not grant an Israeli carrier immediate reciprocal rights, El Al is to begin its flights to Belgrade in early 1988, the Transport Ministry announced. Because yesterday's licence was given to a charter airline, El Al is expected to operate flights through its charter subsidiary Sun D'O'r, a ministry spokesman said.

He added that negotiations for a full commercial agreement between the carriers are due to start soon.

Power surge marks rise in standards

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA - Power consumption shot up by 6.4 per cent during the 1986 fiscal year, the biggest increase since before the energy crisis of the Seventies. During the first half of this year consumption rose by another 10 per cent, as compared with the 3.6 per cent increase in 1985.

Yitzhak Hoffi, the general manager of the Israel Electric Corporation, said yesterday that while industrial power consumption went up by 6.3 per cent during the year, (compared with 1.3 per cent the year before) and is continuing to rise - a possible indicator of the start of economic growth - private consumption rose by 15.3 per cent. This figure is a clear sign of rising living standards, marking the use of bigger refrigerators, more dish washers and the spread of air conditioning and electric heating.

The new air conditioned shopping centres, which used 21 per cent more electricity during the year, also contributed to the rise.

Only water pumping did not increase its annual use of power.

Hoffi said electricity prices have

gone down by 23.5 per cent in real terms during the year to 8.27 agorot per kWh, the lowest cost in the past 10 years. This is due to the greater use of coal for firing the power stations following the drop in oil prices, and improved efficiency in the corporation.

The unusually high rise in consumption was ahead of the corporation's estimates, but the demand can be supplied by more frequent operation of the much more expensive gas turbines, which the corporation holds in reserve, Hoffi said.

At present, Hoffi added, the corporation "has no knowledge" of any government decision to stop importing coal from South Africa, and is continuing to do so.

He stressed that the recent government decision to curtail ties with South Africa included no ban on coal and his firm is continuing to buy three million tons a year from there through the government-owned National Coal Company.

These purchases comprise 10 per cent of South Africa's annual coal exports. This coal is the cheapest Israel can buy to fire its Hadera power station.

FALLOUT

(Continued from page one)

Shamir to "release" Weizman from the cabinet. "Weizman's manners and style render him unfit to serve as a minister," Landau said.

MK Ehud Olmert (Likud) told the Knesset committee that although he did not always agree with Sharon's "style," the industry and trade minister's charge that the security forces were not doing enough to "prevent the murder of Jews" had a "grain of truth" in it.

MK Geula Cohen (Tehiya) sent a cable to Defence Minister Rabin, who had also rallied against Sharon on Sunday. She wrote that "before you shut Arik's mouth it would be better if you closed the gaps in the security establishment for which you are responsible."

To Weizman, Cohen cabled that "instead of throwing Arik out of the cabinet it would be better if you

would throw out all the PLO-niks who cultivate."

In his attacks on Weizman, the Likud is trying to obfuscate the fact that at Sunday's cabinet meeting Weizman was supported by three other Labour ministers, while none of the Likud ministers came to Sharon's aid. The incident only reinforced Sharon's contention, voiced in public several times in recent months, that he has been left in the lurch by his colleagues and is carrying the burden of the battle against Labour by himself. In any case, the incident accentuated Sharon's lack of support among the top Likud ministers.

The Labour Party sharply condemned Sharon's "attempt to exploit the abhorrent murder" of Alexander Arad on Thursday "in order to incite extremist elements against the defence establishment."

Terming him a "man of blood," MK Yossi Sarid (Citizens Rights Movement) lashed into Sharon at the Knesset committee. Sarid said that Sharon is "the man who tried to break the IDF in Lebanon and is now trying to break it again." Sarid called on Sharon to "get out of our lives and out of our destinies."

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

South African coal in return for planes

Israel Aircraft Industries is to sell an Astra jet to a South African coal company in return for coal in a buy-back deal.

Energy Minister Moshe Shalal yesterday authorized the seven-million dollar deal between the government-owned National Coal Company and the South African coal company owners.

Shalal has directed the National Coal Company to prepare importing coal on the basis of this reciprocal arrangement and that they should

give priority to imports on a similar basis in the future.

Negotiations are also underway for the sale of two jets, in return for coal, to Australia.

Yom Kippur

Yom Kippur's eve, this Friday, will not be considered as a business day by the commercial banks, on instructions from the Bank of Israel. The payment of deposits maturing that day will be delayed until Sunday, but interest will be paid on them.

Banks will be open on Friday, but they will inform their clients that the credit and debit operations in their accounts for Friday's transactions will be delayed.

Hapoalim's place

Bank Hapoalim is the only Israeli bank to make it into the list of the world's biggest 100 banks. Hapoalim appears in 99th place in a special report by *The Wall Street Journal* on global finance and investing. The top 10 banks are dominated by Japan with seven representatives, including four of the top five. France has two and the U.S. one - Citicorp, in second place.

Cotton results

Israel cotton prices have recovered from their low of August last year with acala cotton now selling at 85-90 cents a pound and pima cotton at 120 cents a pound.

But Yosef Dloomy, the director-general of the Cotton Marketing and Production Board strongly criticized government policies yesterday,

saying the frozen exchange rate hit at farmers' profits, causing them to grow less cotton.

Dloomy added that 75 per cent of this year's crop has already been bought by local and foreign buyers and as a result of the demand for Israeli cotton, the board is selling 1988's harvest earlier than normal. In the past few weeks, 10 per cent of next year's expected crop has been sold. (Itim)

Kibbutz output

Kibbutz factories saw a 7.5 per cent rise in output in 1986, reaching NIS1.8 billion, according to Oded Winkler, managing director of Kibbutz Industries.

Winkler pointed out that this growth was double that of the rest of Israeli industry (excluding diamonds) for this period. Exports went up by 18.5 per cent, reaching \$328m. Winkler added that this

year's exports are expected to increase by 30 per cent.

Constructive gain

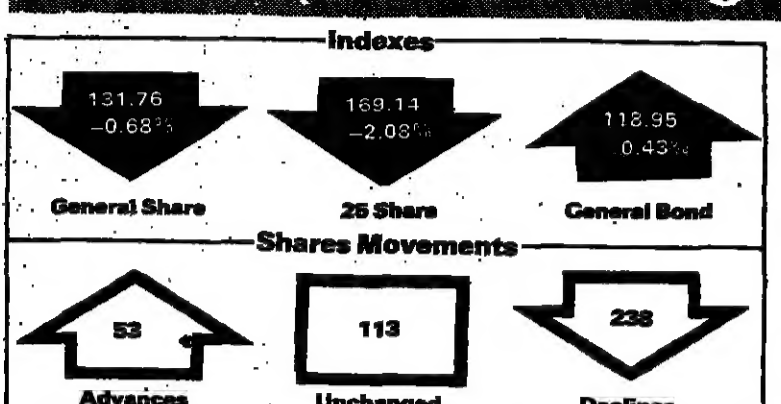
Solel Boneh, the Histadrut-affiliated construction firm, says its improved organization and increased efficiency has led to a sizeable rise in new orders.

According to figures presented at last week's board meeting, the firm's contractors received new orders worth around NIS240 million in the first eight months of this year, an increase of around 20 per cent as compared with the same period last year.

The firm expects its Israeli operations to bring in \$300m. for 1987 while it intends to spend \$200m. of its reserves to help reduce debts accumulated in the past.

Since the beginning of last year, Solel Boneh has shed some 4,700 workers.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange



Selected Prices

Name	Price	Volume	%
Commercial Banks			
Bank Leumi	2220	100	-
Bank Hapoalim	2000	3500	-
Bank Mizrahi	18100	40	-3.5
Bank Discount	8188	2882	-1.2
Commercial Banks (cont.)			
Bank Leumi	10250	187	+0.3
Bank Hapoalim	78300	354	+0.2
Bank Mizrahi	131500	107	+1.3
Bank Discount	43510	1284	+1.7
Hapoalim r	89750	1487	+0.3
Leumi 10.0	177200	5	-
Leumi 10.0	44200	2611	-0.2
Leumi 10.0	59670	-	-
Mortgage Banks & Finance			
Leumi Mort.	10500	180	-
Dev. Mort.	3847	800	-4.5
Mizrahi	3847	800	-4.5
Tel Aviv	21850	80	-0.7
Morav	8300	128	-1.4
Leumi Ind.	14847	85	-2.0
Leumi Ind.	44200	2611	-0.2
Leumi Ind.	59670	-	-
Insurance			
Ararat 1.0	11750	722	-0.4
Phoenix 1.0	746	2289	-0.7
Hemiker 1.0	5900	107	+1.3
Leumi 1.0	16500	40	-3.5
Sahar	420	5913	-1.2
Securities	1282	350	-
Leumi 1.0	8098	-	-
Trade & Services			
Intergate 1.0	1110	2818	-7.5
Meir 1.0	1050	281	-0.2
Crystal	884	1445	-0.8
Superior 1.0	15100	515	-1.3
Leumi 1.0	5500	522	-1.7
Leumi 1.0	1200	2580	-4.0
Leumi 1.0	1650	150	-
Leumi 1.0	7400	-	-
Leumi 1.0	2800	183	-
Leumi 1.0	455	7777	-2.2
Leumi 1.0	14200	-	-
Leumi 1.0	886	730	-
Real Estate, Building and Agriculture			
Al-Rov	345	4095	-1.4
Al-Rov	59900	50	-0.2
Aradim	3070	338	-3.2
Decker	6780	100	-
J.E.C.	322	24218	-2.4
Decker	5500	522	-1.7
Decker	21800	187	-0.2
Decker	288	1300	-1.7
Decker	6700	575	-2.5
Decker	1880	778	-2.5
Industries			
Dubek	5880	323	-2.0
Tempo 1.0	35888	7	-0.7

Statistics

Stock Indices		
General Share (incl. argmt.)	146.77	-0.88%
Non-argmt.	199.80	-1.08%
Arrangement Banks	121.98	+0.17
Mortgage Banks	146.21	-1.10%
Financial Inst.	128.82	-0.28%
Insurance	59.07	-1.19%
Commerce & Services	146.72	-1.81%
Real Estate & Agri.	130.26	-0.01%
Industries	144.56	-1.70%
Food & Tobacco	122.88	-2.31%
Textiles	137.78	-1.38%
Metals	123.45	-2.11%
Electronics	124.50	-1.85%
Chemicals	158.40	-1.50%
Industrial Invest.	171.14	-2.07%
Investment Co.	171.10	-2.39%
Oil Exploration	139.48	-2.54%
Parallel List	81.74	-1.22%

Bond Indices

Index-linked Bonds	118.80	+0.48
Fully linked	120.70	+0.55
Partially linked	114.94	+0.31
Foreign Currency	118.44	+0.0
FC denominated	112.81	-0.21
FC linked	122.88	+0.11
Investment Co.	115.02	+0.25
Arrangement	118.41	+0.58
Short-term 0-2 yrs	121.31	+0.88
Medium-term 3-5 yrs	121.31	+0.88
Long-term 7+ yrs	123.04	+0.12

Turnovers

Total Shares	NIS 15,073,300
Non-arrangement	NIS 11,133,400
Arrangement	NIS 3,940,500
Bonds	NIS 7,563,500
Treasury Bills	NIS 1,567,500

Share Movements

Advances	53	(199)
Declines	238	(80)
Unchanged	113	(5)
Declines	238	(80)
Declines	238	(80)

Bond Market Trends

Index-linked	Rise to 1%
2% fully linked	Rise to 1%
4.25% fully linked	Rise to 1%
80% linked	Rise to 1%
FC denominated	Rise to 1%
FC linked	Rise to 1%
Investment Co.	Rise to 1%
Arrangement	Rise to 1%
Short-term 0-2 yrs	Rise to 1%
Medium-term 3-5 yrs	Rise to 1%
Long-term 7+ yrs	Rise to 1%

Arrangement Yields

100% linked	12.00%
80% linked	12.13%
FC denominated	11.88%
FC linked	11.88%
Investment Co.	11.88%
Arrangement	11.88%
Short-term 0-2 yrs	11.88%
Medium-term 3-5 yrs	11.88%
Long-term 7+ yrs	11.88%

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Bank Leumi	1,000-10,000	11.00	7.00	8.00	8.00
Bank Hapoalim	1,000-10,000	11.00	7.00	8.00	8.00
Bank Mizrahi	1,000-10,000	11.00	7.00	8.00	8.00
Bank Discount	1,000-10,000	11.00	7.00	8.00	8.00
Bank Leumi	1,000-10,000	11.00	7.00	8.00	8.00
Bank Hapoalim	1,000-10,000	11.00	7.00	8.00	8.00
Bank Mizrahi	1,000-10,000	11.00	7.00	8.00	8.00
Bank Discount	1,000-10,000	11.00	7.00	8.00	8.00

Patish (foreign currency deposit rates, Sept. 22)

Currency (incl. deposit)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	8.875	7.250	2.675
Pound sterling (\$100,000)	8.875	7.250	2.675
Deutsche mark (\$100,000)	3.125	3.500	3.750
Swiss franc (\$100,000)	2.625	3.250	3.125
Yen (\$100,000)	3.125	3.500	3.750

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates (Sept. 28)

Currency	Rate	Rate	Rate
U.S. dollar	1.8139	1.8141	1.8143
Deutsche mark	0.8823	0.8744	0.86
Pound sterling	2.5483	2.5157	2.51
French franc	0.2568	0.2522	0.25
Japanese yen (100)	1.1212	1.1074	1.10
Dutch florin	0.7753	0.7753	0.76
Swiss franc	1.0671	1.0539	1.05
Swedish krona	0.2524	0.2483	0.24
Norwegian krone	0.2423	0.2380	0.23
Denmark krone	0.2395	0.2375	0.23
Italian lire (100)	0.3378	0.3333	0.33
Canadian dollar	1.2256	1.2145	1.21
Australian dollar	1.2256	1.2145	1.21
S. African rand	0.7847	0.7750	0.76
Belgian franc (10)	0.4270	0.4217	0.41
Austrian schilling (10)	1.2570	1.2415	1.23
Italian lire (1000)	1.2273	1.2121	1.20
Jordanian dinar	1.2570	1.2415	1

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Public sector wages

ALTHOUGH only a handful among the 15 unions in the public sector have so far signed the wage agreement with the Treasury, concluded on their behalf by the Histadrut, and despite the fact that civil servants are having a field day making fun of the puny NIS 75 wage increase thus secured for them, the agreement is an important step toward establishing a modicum of rationality in that interest-ravaged sector.

The agreement has already yielded two significant and worthwhile results. First, the Treasury has, with the Histadrut's consent, set a ceiling on a global wage increase in the entire public sector. The total wage bill is to be increased by 5 per cent, and that extra amount is to be divided up among the employees as the Histadrut sees fit. Secondly, the Treasury has undertaken to restructure the entire economy by January 1989 with the introduction of a five-day working week in the public sector.

Plainly emboldened by its earlier successes on the economic front, the Treasury, supported by the Bank of Israel, knew some five months ago already, when it just started negotiating a new wage accord in the public sector, that it had the upper hand and need not knuckle under to extremist union demands. Finance Minister Moshe Nissim's purpose was to keep the lid on inflation, and if possible bring it down further, by additional cuts in government expenditures. That ruled out any steep rises in public sector wages, which he now had the power to buck.

In the long term, however, policy dictates that public sector efficiency be raised, and the number of employees in it be reduced. That seemingly built-in contradiction is to be resolved, in the new agreement, by offering an incentive to employees: a higher salary for a better-done job, without a significant rise in the total wage bill. The underlying idea is that modernization will allow the public sector workforce to remain stable, even though the general population increases in size.

What this bodes is a budgetary saving, a better deal for the workers - and, last but not least, improved service to the public at large.

The fly in the ointment may prove to be the promise of a five-day working week. The cabinet approved it in advance, subject to conditions set by the Treasury and now endorsed by the Histadrut, but the likely ramifications are yet to be fully examined. The private economy is not alien to the five-day week, notably its electronics and aircraft industries, but adoption by the public sector may augur spread of the practice much more widely. That prospect terrifies many industrialists who should view it as a challenge and not as a threat, even if, which is not unlikely, it also turns out to involve a gradual reduction in working hours.

Proper arrangements will, however, have to be made so as not to adversely affect the quality of the public service in the very process of seeking to improve it.

God willing

RELIGIOUS Jews in their private correspondence, and rabbinical authorities in their official communications, are wont to start them by invoking God's help, using the proper Hebrew or Aramaic acronym for the purpose. Not so state organs, even - as a rule - when they are headed by Orthodox functionaries. The reason is obvious. Innocuous as the expression *b'ezrat ha-Shem* may seem to its regular users, its adoption, even if only optionally, by the state would indicate a giant leap to theocratization.

The avoidance of such explosively divisive terminology by civil servants, or for that matter by army officers, has in fact been implicit in the *status quo*. Now it is suddenly contended that the *status quo* sanctions it.

Not long ago the parents of some newly inducted soldiers were invited to their swearing-in ceremony in letters adorned with *b'ezrat ha-Shem*. Many of the parents protested, and the army promised that what was described as a technical error, except in communications by military chaplains, would not recur. It did, in short order. The promise was then reiterated, and that let loose an avalanche of protests from Orthodox quarters, both moderate and extreme. Without so much as a prior warning, religious officers and officials were discovered to have a "right" to stamp documents authored by them with the marks of their personal religious conviction.

There was no suggestion that a similar "right" would have to be conceded to non-religious, or even anti-religious, officers and officials to similarly express their own personal convictions.

Many, perhaps most, religious Jews in this Jewish state are apt to be offended by the mere suggestion its Jewishness is not necessarily manifested in the adoption of Jewish religious forms and formulas. But a meeting of minds on the relationship between religion and the state in this land can only start from pluralist and secular premises. That should imply no constriction of the right of the religious to stamp Israel with the tenets of Jewish ethics. They are certainly free to pursue justice, uphold truth and eschew violence.

God willing, they will.

THE MORNING AFTER

The boycott declared by this country's Journalists Association against the Betar Jerusalem football team for one month is redolent of arrogance and hypocrisy.

It is arrogant because action against the team and its many thousands of fans was based on skimpy circumstantial evidence. True, *Yediot Aharonot* reporter Zadok Yehzekli was brutally attacked after leaving a Betar game. Granted, too, Yehzekli had been attacked previously by a man who appeared to be a Betar fan. But this is not conclusive evidence upon which to pass judgement.

As a body, Israeli journalists spend a lot of time fulminating against high-handed abuses of power. This is where the hypocrisy comes in. The team and its fans were not allowed to air their views before the body that decided to punish them and have no recourse to formal appeal against the decision. If the same kind of sanction had been declared by any other body, Israeli journalists would be up in arms.

It is the same kind of arrogance and hypocrisy that drove some members of the union to demand a radio boycott of Arik Einstein's song against the press - *My Little Journalist*. Journalists cannot retain their integrity while acting with such blatant double standards.

And the sad part of it is that the decision will probably backfire against the press. Violence against journalists is getting worse. You can hear about the small attacks and near escapes in any newsroom. It is part of the general faltering of democratic values in this country. But journalists must recognize that a boycott of this kind does not serve their own interests. **MICHAEL EILAN**

The real importance of the Holocaust

Le Pen - an honest man

Macabee Dean

JEAN-MARIE LE PEN might have a political philosophy which borders on insanity, and he might be cockeyed about doubting that six million Jews were murdered during World War II, but he is far more right than wrong in stating that the gassing of the Jews was a "minute detail in the history of World War II."

There is a double tragedy in his "rightness."

For the Jews, it only throws into bold relief the false belief of their importance to World War II. Being murdered wholesale did little to change the history of the war. The war would have been won or lost with or without a Holocaust. If the Jews had played any vital role in determining the outcome of the war, the Allies would have made attempts to bomb the death camps and the crematoria; they would have told the people in Nazi-occupied areas that they would be called to account after the war for collaborating; they would have called on the general population to make detailed lists of collaborators and their deeds; and they would have helped sponsor a Jewish underground in Europe.

But the Holocaust did mark an enormous milestone in understanding how quickly our so-called civilization can degenerate to barbarism. One day, no doubt, German history will be divided into two periods.

B.H. and A.H., which could stand for Before and After Hitler or Before and After the Holocaust.

And for most Christians, the tragedy is that genocide still plays a small role in their overall scheme of things.

True, today most persons in the civilized world roundly and soundly condemn the Holocaust. But it was some of these same persons - or at least their fathers and grandfathers - who carried out this crime, or who turned their heads aside when it happened. There is no reason to believe that many of them, despite their "righteous" stand today, have really changed their viewpoints.

The recent election of Kurt Waldheim as President of Austria is indication enough of this. Whether he is guilty or not, only time may tell - not will tell, for we may never know the truth - but Austrians should not have elected him until his name was cleared. That they did elect him, that his popularity even increased after he was accused of crimes against humanity, is indication enough that most Austrians also consider the gassing of the Jews a "minute detail in the history of World War II."

Would the Austrians have elected Waldheim to their highest office if he was suspected of murdering a single pure-blooded racial Austrian (if such a person exists outside of political tracts)?

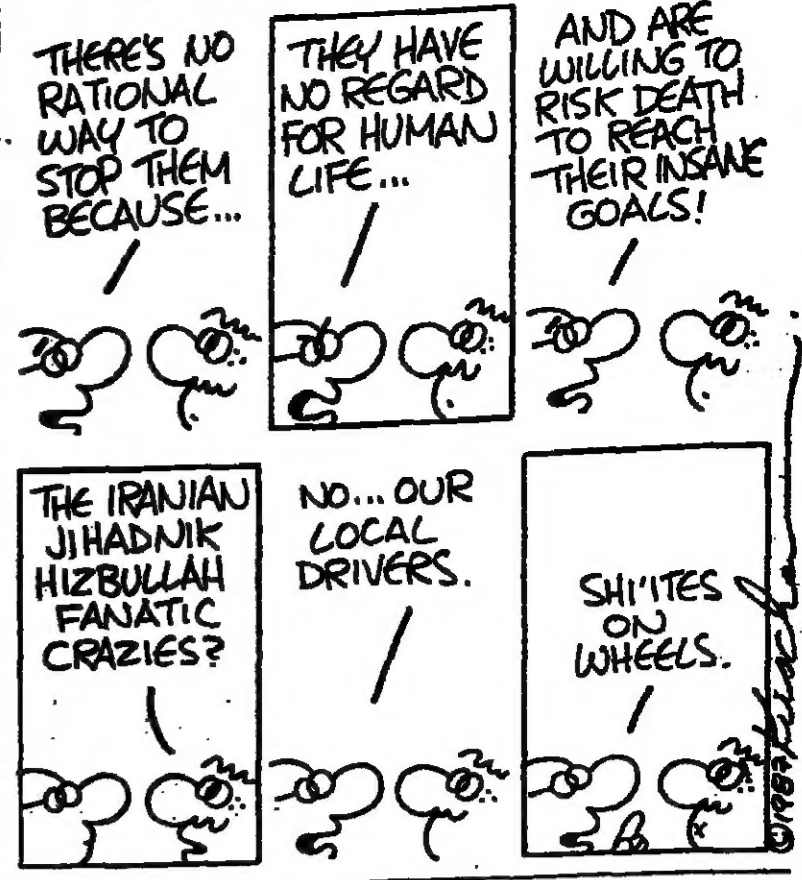
Thus the Austrians, like many other European nationalities, have not uprooted their inbred animosity towards the Jews, despite their pronouncements to the contrary. Like the white men in western movies, all too many Europeans "speak with forked tongue."

Most Europeans even today deny their guilt. They conveniently pass the buck to the Germans or to the Nazi Party. These Europeans had no choice but to go along with their Nazi masters. They claim to be lily white, as pure as newly fallen snow.

By some paradox, many decent Germans were, and are today, ready to accept their guilt, even if their collaborators in other countries refuse to do so. Yet, had these other Europeans taken a stand against the deportation of the Jews, they certainly would have slowed it down, even if they could not have prevented it. Collaboration by these Europeans even expedited the mass killings.

It is against this background that we should judge the statement made by Le Pen. The statement was correct, and even more, the man is

Dry Bones



honest in his political viewpoints. He does not speak with a forked tongue. He will no doubt be warmly welcomed by the neo-Nazis in West Germany.

It is a shame that there are not more honest men like him in Europe. If other European countries

had their own 'Le Pen,' most Jews, in Israel and in the Diaspora, would view their future differently. There would be much less emigration from, and much more immigration to, Israel.

The writer is a member of the Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

The gospels calumny

Haskell Nordon

The fact that our Christian brethren read and believe in these defamatory myths is grievous, especially when the Christian religion can function without being virulently anti-Jewish. But we can do little about it. However, it is inexcusable that we Jews, the people of the book, addicted for ages to the printed page, fail to instruct our children in the details of events that have been manipulated to affect our history so tragically.

What is the cause of this selective educational gap? Before trying to deal with this it is necessary to take up the second press report alluded to previously: The forthcoming first printing of *Mein Kampf* in Hebrew. One is perplexed by the thought that, except for fleeting reports in the daily press, a whole Jewish generation, readers of Hebrew or Yiddish and contemporaries of the Nazi regime, had no direct access to the book that harbours the ideological rationalisation of the extermination

of the Jewish people. That the Yiddish reading masses were unable or were not forced to read the writings of their future executioner is appalling. And if the Jewish leaders and publishers may perhaps be excused for not wanting to shock readers with the "ranting of a madman" before 1933, it was tragic folly not to do so after Hitler became the democratically elected Chancellor and Fuehrer of Germany. How much this lack of diligent teaching of *Mein Kampf* and not studying its chapter on the Jews, word by word, contributed to the mental unpreparedness for the horrors to follow is hard to estimate.

The educational gap originated in Talmudic times when the *Sifrei min-im*, the holy Christian books, were strictly forbidden for Jews to read. Instead of allowing the critical Jewish mind to be freely versed in the groundlessness of the gospels' accusations by examining the "evidence" presented in Christian scriptures, our sages adopted a strict ban allowing ignorance to give our adversaries a handy weapon. Without challenge to the myth-makers, the

Nazarene - the Jew who strictly observed the Jewish religious laws, who was loved by the Jewish multitudes and who was tried and crucified by Roman oppressors for insurrection - was fatefully impelled into history as a victim of his own people.

The ignorance of historical facts deprives Jewish youth of knowledge of the emotional religious underpinning of Western culture which consciously or subconsciously sees the Jew in the image absorbed from the gospels. It also makes ignorant youth prey to missionary activities when the only source of the subject of Jesus are reports in the gospels. If a comprehensive and historically true picture of the events in Jerusalem almost two thousand years ago were included as an obligatory part of the curriculum, Jewish youth would not only be in a firm position to better understand history but would be able to feel compassion for those who are taught historical misrepresentations. Any well informed Jew will be able to refute allegations of anti-Semitism and hopefully there will be no more suggestions that a Jewish prime minister wash his hands like Pontius Pilate.

The writer is author of the book 'The Education of a Polish Jew - A Physician's War memoirs.'

READERS' LETTERS

THE SABBATH WAR

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, - The Sabbath war in Jerusalem fills me with both amazement and fear. Even if I am an outsider, a goy from anti-Semitic Europe, I still feel as if this concerns me. For I believe in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. And a fight between Jews about the Sabbath in Zion, the holy city, worries me, particularly when those in power turn against the observers of the Sabbath.

I can certainly understand the political and democratic elements involved. In a real democracy, opinions clash, not least so in a Jewish democracy. And the more important the matter is, the more serious the clash will be. However, it is alarming when these clashes take on physical expression.

This particular case of differing opinion involves faith against non-belief. So I do understand the rabbi who fights for the sanctity of the Sabbath. But I cannot conceive how intelligent people can ask for official violation of the Sabbath. This is not a matter of liberty. The prophets of secularisation are not forced to

attend synagogue or to pray or to keep the commandments. They have already, long ago, won a number of battles. I cannot see that any honest, cultural, ethical or religious interest is violated if cinemas get a day of rest. But it seems to me that both democracy and culture are endangered if the non-observant majority are unwilling to abstain from publicly violating the faith of the minority.

In my opinion the war against the peace of the Sabbath will endanger social and national values which have given the Jewish people their integrity and made them invincible.

As a Christian, I know this battle from experience. The difference between Norway and Israel in this respect is that the believers in my country gave in to secular pressure practically without resistance. Today our battle is lost. But those who won gained nothing. And we who lost realise only now how wrong we were not to defend our values. We now see that what we lost was of value to non-believers and believers alike. **ARTHUR BERG**
Hop, Norway.

MULTIPLE-RIDE TICKETS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, - The Egged Bus Company runs a usually decent and efficient outfit, fulfilling an important need to provide us with a transport service as extensive as possible.

However, their ticketing arrangements could do with some improvement. While Egged is to be commended for having instituted cheaper prices for youngsters and pensioners, this privilege is only available with the 20-ride ticket, without which everyone, be he six, 36 or 76, pays the same fare.

This policy is heavily lopsided in Egged's favour, more so since the multiple-ride tickets are purchased on the buses themselves. Many a time the traveller is confronted with a "none available" response when he needs to buy such a ticket. Particularly annoying was that on

September 1, when thousands of children returned to school, there were insufficient supplies of multiple-ride tickets on the buses, so that many children were forced to pay the full fare for two rides.

Why should the consumer be penalized if Egged is faulty in ensuring sufficient supplies?

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ON THE HASBANI INNER-TUBING

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, - I would like to add our experience to that of Benny Morris with reference to inner tubing on the Hasbani (September 11). This summer, my wife and I, both of us strong swimmers and experienced canoeists, took the easy, "family" route down the river from Kibbutz Ma'ayan Baruch. We both enjoyed ourselves immensely, but reached the following conclusions based on our brief experience on the smoothest of river courses.

The water current is too swift for anyone other than a strong swimmer to handle. I fell out of my tube and had to work quite hard to get back in.

All obvious hazards, such as overhanging trees should be removed or

trimmed to allow passage beneath them.

Everyone should be required to wear sneakers and life preservers.

Clear warning signs of the dangers involved should be posted and one or more trained supervisory personnel should be on the watercourse at all times.

These conclusions apply only to the relatively smooth route we took. If the hazards on the other routes are indeed as described by Morris, then the ministry of tourism should certainly restrict access and require use of appropriate safety equipment (e.g., life preservers, protective clothing, etc.)

DR. MICHAEL HARRISON
Kiryat Ono.

Sir, - I was shocked to learn from Benny Morris's article that four people have been killed inner-tubing on the Hasbani. We did the route three years ago and I realize how lucky we were. We were also given no preparation other than being told we must know how to swim.

I was totally unable to control my tube and was constantly crashed from one bank to the other. But even the serious cuts and bruises sustained were nothing compared to the inability to fight the current in deep water.

One of our tubes had a leak and was no bigger than a child's rubber ring by the time our frightening experience came to an end.

LILLIAN GREEN
Kfar Sava.

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